

ΕΝΙΑΤΤΟΣ ΤΕΡΑΣΤΙΟΣ
MIRABILIS ANNUS,

OR,

The year of Prodigies and Wonders,
being a faithful and impartial Collection

of severall signs that have been seen in the Heavens, in
the Earth, and in the Waters; together with many
remarkable Accidents, and Judgements befalling
divers persons, according as they have been te-
stified by very credible hands: all which
have happened within the space of one
year last past, and are now made pub-
lick for a seasonable warning to the
People of these three Kingdoms
speedily to repent and turn
to the Lord, whose hand
is lifted up amongst us.

*Isaiah 5. 11, 12. Woe to them that rise up early in the morning
that they may follow strong drink, that continue until night
till Wine inflame them, and the Harp and the Viol, the
Tabret and the Pipe. and Wine are in their feasts, but they
regard not the Work of the Lord, neither consider the ope-
ration of his hands, Psal. 111. 2. The works of the Lord are
great, sought of all them that have pleasure therein.*

*Revel. 15. 4. Who shall not fear thee O Lord, and glorifie the
Name, for thou only art Holy, for all Nations shall come
and worship before thee, for thy judgements are made ma-
nifest.*

*Omnia hæc signa sunt imminentis iræ Dei quam necesse
est quoquo modo possumus ut & annunciemus & præ-
dicemus & deprecemur, Tertul. ad Scap. p. 80.*

*Quod signum erit iræ Dei impiis, erit signum perfectæ Re-
demptionis filiis Dei, Zanch. de oper. Dei, Tom. 3. p. 335.*

Printed in the Year 1661.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MYSTICAL ANNALS

OF THE THEATRE OF PRODIGES AND WONDERS

being a natural and supernatural Collection
 of the most remarkable and extraordinary Events
 that have happened in the World, together with many
 remarkable Prophecies, and other curious Observations
 upon the same, as they are related by the most
 famous Historians, and other Writers of the
 most creditable Authority, and are
 here presented to the Reader in a new
 and improved Edition, with many
 new Additions, and a new Preface
 by the Author, who is now in the
 full Possession of his Health, and
 is able to attend to the Business
 of the Press, which has
 been so long neglected.

It is a great Pleasure to me to show
 that the way to a long and happy
 Life is to be found in the Study of
 the History of the World, and the
 Study of the Prophecies, which are
 contained in the Holy Scriptures,
 and in the Writings of the most
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Printed in the Year 1681.

The Preface.

The most natural and frequent works of God, ought to be the daily subjects not only of the serious consideration but admiration also of every sober Christian; Eliphaz in Job reckons the ordinary Occurrences of natural causes as the rain, &c. amongst the great and unsearchable and marvellous things of God. For indeed nothing lesse then the admirable, infinite, and transcendent Wisdome, Power, and Majesty of the mighty Jehovah is clearly manifested, in the most common and usual constitutions of nature, the whole World being nothing else but Gods Book in Folio, and every Creature and providence as a several page, in which we may plainly read his eternal Power and God-head; or like to Jacobs ladder, the top in Heaven and the foot on Earth. *Job. 5. 9. 10.*

Yea God many times appears greatest in the smallest things, he is more eminently seen in the activity of the souls of the Dwarf and Ant: then of the Gyant and Elephant.

Some of the Ancients have affirmed, that the ordinary productions of nature are more wonderfull then those things which do obtain a more formal denomination of miracles, making the multiplication of a grain of corn in the earth, a greater wonder then the multiplying of the five loaves by our Saviour, wherewith he fed five thousand. If God then had limited the discoveries of himselfe to the world in these common wayes and means, he had not left himself without witnesse, but all men certainly without excuse, whiles in defiance of these impregnable proofs and demonstrations of a Deity, they do remain wilfully ignorant; and brutishly immerse themselves in the stinking lake of an Atheistical and Diabolical conversation. But that God might adde to this way of manifesting himselfe the utmost degree of complement and perfection; and that he might also ex abundanti prepare a sovereign and sufficient antidote against desperate Atheism, and Irreligion amongst rational creatures, he doth many times beyond, above, yea sometimes contrary to the ordinary course of things, make his wonderful works to be remembered; he doth indeed set bounds to nature, and will not suffer it at any time to overflow its banks, but he will not limit himself, for whatsoever the Lord pleases that doth he in heaven and in earth in the Seas, and in the deep places, he will sometimes do great things past finding out, yea, & wonders without number. Upon this account it is that the Psalmist contemplating the wonderful signs and judgments by which God did make way for the compleat deliverance of his people out of Ezyptian bondage, breaks forth into this triumphant challenge, who is so great a God as our God? Thou art the God that dost wonders, thou hast declared thy strength amongst the People. Now it is the scope and design of the ensuing Narrative to represent God unto the world in his high and eminent capacity as a wonder-working God, and to that purpose we could not but record and publish some of those *mirabilia Dei*, which by impartial and diligent hands have been faithfully gleaned out of several parts of the Nation, and are here put together under their proper heads, according

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to their respective dates, whereunto we have also added a few suitable Parallels to some of them, as we have been furnished with them from our most Authentick Historians, and as we had opportunity and leisure to find them out.

But before we proceed a step further, that we might take away all occasion of mis-belief (from any that may seek occasion) we do make the same solemn protestation which *Lycosthenes* did in the like case, before God, Angels and Men, that we have not feigned any one of the particulars here inserted, nor so much as a *Circumstance* relating to any one of them, but have faithfully and impartially published them as they were communicated to us from credible Persons, whose proofs also we scanned and weighed to the uttermost, and received ample satisfaction in the validity thereof, before we made them publick, casting away many things which we could not but judge probable, because not satisfied in the certainty of them; Neither let the paucity of the Spectators of many of the particulars be a stumbling stone to any, seeing onely the *Magi*, saw the Star that led to Christ, and a few *Shepherds* the Heavenly Host which proclaimed the Birth of our Saviour, and upon the credit of their Testimony both these things are inserted in the sacred story. And now having given (as we hope) a satisfactory account in the Premises, we shall go on to tell the Reader that the *signes* and *Prodigies* contained in the ensuing Discourse, are in themselves like the handwriting upon the wall in *Belsazzars* Pallace, which the *South-sayers*, *Astrologers*, and *Chaldeans* could neither understand nor read, but the *Saints* may with Gods Heifer come to know his Riddles. The wise shall understand.

The things that are here presented to the Reader are various, and remarkable, the particulars seen in the Heavens are in number fifty four, those in the Earth twenty three, those in the Waters ten; the Accidents and Judgements befalling several persons twenty seven; all these, which have been collected but by a few hands; (there being we are persuaded many more which have not come to our knowledge) have happened within the compasse of a year; the like we believe a whole age hath scarce produced in times past; the Lord therein shewing mercy and compassion to the people of these Nations, that though he hath suffered this year so many hundreds, if not thousands of our able godly, preaching Ministers to be removed into corners, yet the defect of their Ministry hath been eminently supplied by the Lords immediate preaching to us from Heaven, in the great and wonderful works of his Providence which *Eusebius* calls τὰ τῶ Θεοῦ ἀγγέλλματα Gods sermons, which this year come to more then two in a week, according to the foregoing calculation.

And if (according to the opinion of Learned Men, such as *Luther*, *Voetius*, *Weems*, &c.) Prodigies and signes are especially for the sakes of wicked and ungodly men, *Aarons* Rod budded for a token against the Rebels. Then from the vast disproportion of their number this year, to what there were for many years together in the times foregoing, we may easily guess at the prodigious increase of the most brutish profaneness; Atheism, Uncleanesse, Murders, Blasphemy, and Superstition that this single year hath produced, beyond all the Presidents which former times have acquainted us with. And surely by these hainous and

Eicet autem multa in his inveniuntur quæ rationem ac fidem hominum excedant, &c. Testes tamen mihi erit Deus, qui admirabilis est in operibus suis, ac ipsa etiam coram eodem conscientia salva qua affirmare possum me nihil continxisse, sed omnia aut ipse oculis meis ætate nostra vidi, aut ab amicis indubitate tamen fidei explorare potui.
Lycost. de Prod. Epist. nuncupat.
Mat. 2. 2.
Luke 2. 8, 9, &c.
Dan. 5. 8.
Dan. 12. 10.

Euseb. Eccles. Hist. Lib. 3. cap. 8.
Numb. 17. 10.
In Germany, as their wickedness and debauchery did increase, so did the prodigious & strange supernatural accidents multiply exceedingly, Hist. Iren Age. p. 66.

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and unparallel'd enormities, the *Jealous* God hath been exceedingly Provoked, and by his remarkable and strange signes in the Heavens, the Earth and the Waters, doth in a most dreadful manner Alarm the ungodly world; they are not only the *Messengers*, but *Harbingers* also of Divine indignation, to such as are *obstinate* in their wickedness, who say in their hearts there is no God, and lead a life worse than that of the people in the time of *Noah*.

We shall not dare to be positive in a particular Application of all, or any of the portenta mentioned in the following History, knowing it would relish of too much boldness and presumption to peep into the Ark of Divine secrets. We shall in this case subscribe to the Judgment of the Learned *Voetius*, who accounts it no less than a *Nefas* to apply Prodigies to particular persons, *sine extraordinario & peculiari* *Voetius de signis, &c. page 90. 19.* *motu*, which we do not in the least pretend unto; therefore *Voet. de sig. &c. page 930.* according to the caution given by the same Author, we shall avoid *Baldvinus, lib. 3. cap. p. 813.* *Cucoethes illud* as he calls it, and conclude with *Baldwin*, *præstat ergo* *ralia in silentio & spe committere Deo quam deviando temeritatem prodere;* *It is better in silence and hope, to leave things of this nature to God, than by attempting to prognosticate any thing from them, thereby to betray our own rashness.* Only we shall be bold to hint thus much, that accidents of this kind do portend the surmition or manifestation of some things as yet not existent or not known, which usually carry in them some kind of agreement and assimilation to the Prodigies themselves, as (according to the opinion of some Learned men) the raining of blood may signifie much slaughter, the noise of Guns and the apparition of Armies in the Air, Wars and Commotion, great inundations, popular tumults and insurrections, yet still we must know that God is ansearchable in his wayes, and our most critical and exact observations, together with our best experiences will not capacitate us fully to trace him through the Maze and Labyrinth of his Providencies, his way being as *Solomon* speaks, *Like the way of a ship in the sea.* However, that the following discourse might be the more profitable (so far as the Scriptures with the modest conjectures of the most sober amongst the Learned will warrant us) we shall here briefly insert a few of those general things which commonly prove the issues and events of such prodigious apparitions as the ensuing History gives us an account of.

1. They do usually fore-signifie some remarkable changes and revolutions which bring with them very sad calamities and distresses to the generality of the people, amongst whom they happen; our Saviour himself shews a necessary connexion between signes in the Sun, and in the Moon, and in the Stars and upon the Earth distress of Nations with perplexity. Great are the influences which these things have in a natural way upon states and Kingdomes in the World, it being a received Maxim amongst the meer Naturalists, that some considerable mutations and concussions are the usual products of them, but certainly their Virtue and operation is far greater, as they are ordained of God to portend and signifie the most dreadful and important Revolutions of his Providence. These did our Saviour himselfe institute and appoint as the certaine signes and immediate Fore-runners of that sore Destruction so often threatned, and at last so severely executed by *Titus Vespasian* upon *Jerusalem*. Great honour is likewise given to them.

Luke 21. 25.

οὐρανὸν ἐσθίει ἐν

ἀπὸστα.

Anxietas gentium in consilii inopia. Beza.

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Dr. Jackson Sermon
preached before K.
Cha. 1. on Luke 13.
5. page 9.

Dr. Jackson *ibid* p. 10.

Marchi disp. de Re-
publica lib. 1 cap.
55. page 229.

Ibid page 230. Et
ne procul petit ex-
emplis hoc demon-
strare velle videar
domesticis uter, &c.
A Signis Cæli hujus
modi pavent impij
&c. Voet. de Signis
page 227.

Dan. 5. 22, 23.

Dan. 5. 3. 3.

In consilio vini. A-
benezra.

Verse 4.

Verse 5.

Verse 28.

Deut. 32 35.

them by Christ in that he reckons them amongst the *Portents* and *Prefages* of his second Coming. We shall therefore conclude this with those Instances which the Reverend and Learned Dr. Jackson hath furnished us with, viz. That Testimony of Herodotus (who lived before Alexander the Great, but after Cyus had taken the City Babylon) his words (as they are quoted by the said Author) are these *quoties ingentes sunt eventus & Calamitates vel civitati, vel Nationi solent Signis præhunciat, & extraordinarij calamitates whether such as befall cities or peculiar Signories are always fore shewn by some sign or other.* His other instance is that of *Matchiavel*, of whom he saies, that he was a man as free from Superstition or vain Credulity as any other Writer that hath been borne and bred amongst Christians; yet he out of his own Reading and Experience hath made the same induction with Herodotus, but somewhat more full, *ut causam facile me confitebor ignorare: itarem ipsam cum ex antiquis tum novis exemplis agnoscere oportet. & confiteri omnes magnos motus, quicunque aut urbiant regioni venerunt, vel a conjectoribus vel a revelatione aliquâ Prodigij, aut cœlestibus Signis prædicti aut prænuntiari solere; As I must needs confesse my selfe ignorant of the cause, so the thing it selfe I cannot but acknowledge it to be true, both from antient and modern examples, that the motions and changes which have at any time happened either to Cities or Countries, have still been foresaid or pre-declared either by some soothsayers, or else by some discoveries from the Prodigies or Signs in the Heavens; And afterwards the same Matchiavel affirms, that the several Changes which happened in Italy in his time, were still præ- saged by divers remarkable Signs and Prodigies, whereof he gives parti- cular instances in the Chapter before cited.*

2. They do bode very much misery and calamity to the prophane and wicked part of the World (except a thorough and seasonable re- pentance and turning to God do Intervene) the *Mene Tekel* on the Wall did signifie evil to *Belsazzar*, who though he knew all that God had done to his Father, yet humbled not his heart, but lifted up himself against the Lord of heaven, and by his presence at least did keep up and encourage drunken and debauched meetings, wherein the Vessels of the temple (the spoiles of the Lords people) were prophaned, the High God blasphemed, and the Gods of Gold, and Silver, of brasse, of Iron, of wood, and of stone were praised and magnified; and saies the Text in that same hour came forth fingers of a mans hand, &c. So that God by a Prodigy doth sharply reprove the debauchery of this King and his concubines, with the rest of his Associates, and thereby also declares the sudden period and determination of his Kingdom.

But amongst the *Hellish* rout of prophane and ungodly men, let especially the Opressors and Persecutors of the True Church look to them- selves, when the hand of the Lord in the strange Signs and Wonders is lifted among them; for then let them know assuredly that the day of their Calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make hast. The retale and final overthrow of *Pharoah* and the *Egyptians* (those cruel Task-Masters and Opressors of the Israelites) did bear date not long after the wonderful and the Prodigious Signs which the Lord had shewn in the midst of them; Neither could the Nation of the *Jews* (who were both the betrayers and murderers of the Lord of Life and Glory, and did persecute his Apostles and Disciples from City

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to City) escape those sad and dreadful effects of the Signs and Prodigies which Christ long before foretold and forewarned them by, and were indeed according to our Saviours Predictions, the doleful Messengers of the approaching ruine both of themselves, their City, and Temple: O that therefore all the enemies of Sion (who make it their work to tread the Holy City under foot) would betimes before the effects of this years wonders take place against them, truly repent, and be ashamed of all their enmity against the faithful Servants of the most high God, least his wrath break forth and there be none to de-

live.

3 They do usually Prognosticate very much good to the *Saber* and *Religious* part of the World, that which severely threatens the ruine and destruction of others, doth clearly portend the security and preservation of their interest.

Those signal predictions of *Pharaohs* and the *Egyptians* overthrow did yet assure the *Israelites* of their speedy deliverance, and departure out of the house of bondage; therefore when the *Psalmists* had largely discoursed of those Signs which God did shew in *Egypt*, he concludes with these words, *he made his own people to go forth like Sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock, and he led them on safely so that they feared not, but the Sea over-whelped their enemies, yea the very first discovery that ever the Lord made of saving that People, was by the Prodigie of a burning bush. David also speaking of great Earth- quakes, sad and dark Eclipses, terrible Storms, strange Fiery Meteors in the heavens, dreadful Thunders and Lightnings, &c. Make the end of all this to be nothing else but his own Deliverance; Therefore he sayes in the close of all, he sent from above, he took me, he drew me out of many waters, he delivered me from my strong Enemy, and from them that hated me, for they were too strong for me. The greatest blessing likewise that ever the Church received, viz. (the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ) who came into the world on purpose to save his people from their sins, was ushered in with the appearance of a strange and unusual Star in the East, whereof *Chalcidius* in his Comment upon *Plato's Timaeus* takes great notice, because it signified the coming down of a God in favour to the Salvation of men, as *Dr. Hammond* hath well observed in his Comment upon *Mat. 2. 2.* Those very Signs also which according to Christ's prophetic did point at the miserable Desolation of *Jerusalem*, did not withstanding presage the giving of the Holy Ghost to the Apostles, and the first Gospel Church, as *Peter* himselfe affirms in his *Apology* for the Disciples, And indeed these strange Prodigies were long before by the Prophet *Joel* prophesied of, as the Harbingers of that new and Spiritual dispensation under the Gospel according to his excellent conjection, *I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh, And I will shew wonders in the Heavens, &c.* Which *Peter* in the forementioned Scripture makes to be fulfilled in that wonderful effusion of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost.*

Yea further, our Lord Jesus Christ himselfe, when he speaks of the several Signs that shall precede his second coming, (at the sight whereof all the trees of the Earth shall mourn) yet encourages his people to lift up their hands with joy, because their Redemption draweth nigh.

Upon which words *Luther* thus descants, *behold sayes he this notable*

Instructer

Rev. 11. 2.

Prodigia beneficia
credentibus mae-
fica & horifica in-
credulis.

Corn. A. Lap. Com.

In Joel 2. 30.

Psal. 78. 52. 53.

Exod. 3. 2. 7.

Sam. 2. 22 Chap.

Verse 8, 9, 10, 11,

12, 13, 14, 15.

Verse 17, 18.

Mat. 2. 2.

Est quoque alia ve-
nerabilior & sanctior
Historic. quæ perhi-
bet oreu stellæ cu-
jusdam insolite non
mosbos moresque
prenunciatos, sed
descensum Dei ve-
nerabilis ad humanæ
servationis reremque
mortalium gratiam.

&c. Vid. Dr. Ham-

mond In Mat. 2. 2.

Chap.

Acts 2. 14, 15, 16.

Joel 2. 28, 29, 30.

Mat. 24. 30.

Luke 21. 28.

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Luthers 1 Sermon on
Luke 21. 25, 26, &c.
page 27.

There is also a second Sermon of Luthers on the same Text, now lately translated and published, in which he much encourages the Godly, To hope and rejoyce in the Lord, when his signs and wonders do appear, that Sermon is well worth the Reading.
Verse 30.
Sermon ibid page 66. 67.

Jer. 10.

2 A signis Cœlorum
ne consternemini,
Iun.

Psal. 92. 4.

Psal. 75. 1.

Ad liberandum invocantem.

Aben Ezra.

Joel 2. 31, 32.

Psalms 28. 5.

2 Pet. 3. 13.

Verse 14.

Instructor, who knoweth better how to expound Signes and Tokens to come than any Southsayer or Astrologer, they only prognosticate terrible and horrible events thereof, but he (unto whom nothing is unknown,) doth foretell them to be tokens of all goodnesse to his people; And again in the same Sermon he observes that the happy and comfortable issues of those Signs to the Godly, our Saviour doth plainly interpret by the Parable and Similitude which he makes use of to that purpose. Behold sayes he the fig-tree, and all the Trees when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that Summer is now nigh and hand, &c. Doubtlesse sayes Luther on these words, this is a notable exposition which I my self could never invent, nor apply to this purpose, for who ever heard that the darkning of the Sun and Moon, the destruction of the Heaven and Earth, should be likened to the shooting out of buds, and the blossoming of trees; I would think rather that these things should be likened to a rough, sharp, and very hard Winter, which with intolerable cold destroyeth and killeth all Fruits, and whatsoever groweth upon the Earth. But our Saviour Christ (of all others the best interpreter and expounder of his Word) expoundeth these Signs after another sort, better to our comfort and Consolation; So that now if we see the Sun and the Moon darkened, the Water and the Winds stormy and tempestuous, he teaches us then to say thanks be to God, for now the pleasant summer is at hand, now we see the spring of the leaf in some trees, and other some to shoot out their buds, &c. Upon this consideration therefore let all the Lords faithful people observe the Prophets Counsel, not to be dismayed at the signes of Heaven; But rather with the Psalmist let us Triumph in the works of Gods hands, and abound in Thanksgiving and Rejoycing, for that his name is near his wondrous works declare.

Let us comfort our selves with this, that where God doth threaten that the Sun shall be turned into darknesse, and the Moon into blood, &c. In the very next verse he is pleased to make a gracious promise, That whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call. But we shall no longer detain the Reader from the sight and perusal of the ensuing Collection, which we desire to accompany with our prayers, that all who read it may lay to heart the things contained in it, and take heed they despise not the works of the Lord, nor the operation of his hands, least according to his threatening he destroy them and not build them up, but let every one rather from these things be convinced, that upon us the ends of the world are come, and that God is now making hast to consummate his whole work in the earth, and to prepare the way for his Son to take unto himself his great power and reign; All these prodigies being according to our Saviours own prediction, but præludiums to that signal and last revolution which makes way for the new Heavens and the new Earth, wherein dwells Righteousnesse, And if we look for such things let us be diligent that we may be found of him in Peace, without spot, and blamelesse.

July 25. 1661.

Amen.



*Severall Prodigies and Apparitions seen in the
Heavens from August the 1. 1660. to the
latter end of May, 1661.*

I.

Several persons who were reaping Wheat in a Field about a quarter of a Mile from Hertford, near six of the Clock in the Evening, August 1. 1660. espyed two Suns in the Firmament, the One West, the Other more Northerly at some distance each from other; they were as they judged of equal height and bignesse, and beams did issue from both, only that more Northerly shone not so bright as the other. They continued in their view near half an hour, and then were both overshadowed by a Cloud. This is Testified by honest credible persons who were eye-witnesses.

These παρήλαιοι, as the Greeks call them, do naturally portend much moysture and rainy weather.

But God ordains them (as some learned men conceive) to signifie severall Judgements, as War, Famine, and Pestilence. Some do affirm, they portend the * fall of great men from their power, who rule with pride and disdain. They also signifie (as others do conjecture) disturbances and innovations in matters of Religion.

There were two Suns seen in England at one time, shining at a good distance from each other in the beginning of Queen Maries reign: See Bakers Chron. p. 346.

Several Suns were seen near Prague, about the time of the dreadful persecution which the Protestants sustained there from the hands of the bloody Papists. See Bohem. Hist. p. 335.

II.

IN the same month was seen also at Stratford Bow near London, the likenesse of a great Ship in the Air, which by degrees lessened till it came to be as small as a mans Arm, but kept its form all the while, and at last disappeared. This is testified

B

by

Two suns seen
near Hertford
Aug. 1. 1660.

*Naturaliter
portendunt &
prænuunt
Pluvias. Zanch
de operibus dei,
p. 348. Parheli-
us est magnum
pluviarum sig-
num. Her. Trif-
meg. l. 5. p. 473
Ex dei autem
ordinatione va-
ria ejus Judi-
cia, vel Bella,
vel Fames, &c.
Zanch. ibid.
Pucerus, lib.
Meteorolog.
p. 340.*

* As it hap-
ped Anno 1156.
2 Suns appeared
prognostica-
ting the death
of Tho. Becket
Arch. B. of
Cant an insolēt
proud Prelate
Lycost. p. 112.

The likenesse
of a ship seen
in the Air at
Stratford-bow
near London.

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

by an able Minister living not far from the place; who received the information from the spectators themselves.

III.

A Rain-bow of a blood-red colour seen before Sun-rising, at Southo in Huntingdonshire.

ABout the same time at Southo in Huntingdonshire, was seen before Sun-rising, in the West and by North, a Rain-bow of a blood-red colour, it gave forth brightnesse as if the Sun had been rising in that part of the Heavens, after it had continued for a while, a great red cloud by degrees swallowed it up. This is testified by a very credible person who lived not farre from Southo, and did speak with several who were eye-witnesses.

IV.

Seven Stars seen to fall down perpendicularly.

It is a thing rarely heard of, that such exhalations should move perpendicularly, but rather obliquely which is their natural motion. *Vid Herm. Trismag. l. 5. p. 518.*

AGentleman of good quality, and an Officer of Eminency in the late Kings Army, and now a Justice of Peace in the Country, having occasion to be at London about the month of September, 1660 as he was going over Smithfield about ten of the Clock at night to his Lodgings in Bartholomew's close, perceiving several people looking up into the Heavens, did himself also look up and espied towards the South-west a bright Star of a more then ordinary bignesse, and encompassed with six lesser Stars; whilst he with several others, were with some admiration beholding them, they all fell down perpendicularly and vanished. This Gentlemans Lady being at the same time in her Lodgings, and looking out at the window, expecting her Husbands coming, saw the same thing, with all the circumstances of it; a person of very good credit received this Information from both their Mouths.

V.

A great body of fire seen at Hull. Octob. 3. 1660.

AT Hull about two of the clock in the morning, October 3. 1660. the Souldiers upon the Guard at the South Block-house, saw the appearance of a great Body of Fire at South-east, the form of it (to use the Spectators own terms) was as big at one end as a great Sheet, from which went a narrow stream of Fire, which they judged to be many yards long; it gave such a light, that according to their report (though immediately before and after it was very dark) yet they could see to read a very small print, or take up a pin from off the ground; this continued about the space of half an hour and then vanished.

The same morning also one Travelling from Lincolnshire towards

wards *Hull*, saw a very great light in the sky, whereby he could perfectly discern his way, though before it was exceeding dark; this upon his Arrival at *Hull* that day, he affirmed to divers persons there. And the whole relation is signified by Letters from several eminent men in *Hull* who spake with the eye-witnesses, as also by some inhabitants of *London*, who upon occasion have been at *Hull* since that time, and there from very good hands have received credible and satisfactory information concerning the premises.

VI.

October 5. 1660. between 11 and 12 a Clock at night, was seen near the new Artillery ground, a fair Rainbow with the usual Colours in it, that did seem to stand directly over the Moon, which at that time did shine extraordinary bright. The information we received from a very credible person was an eye-witnesse.

Pliny makes it an impossible thing in nature, that a Rain-bow should be at any time seen in the Night, though he confesseth that Aristotle doth affirm, that once such a thing happened, but it was when the Moon was at full. But if what Aristotle says is true, (which Pliny much questions) yet still what hath been above related concerning the Rain-bow seen in the night when the Moon was not at Full, must needs acknowledge it to be no ordinary thing: the meaning and import whereof, the Lord may in due time discover; which we pray that he will turn for good to all that tremble at his word and works.

VII.

A Person of very good Note and Credit living at *Hertford*, awaking about 4 of the Clock in the Morning, Octob. 11. 1660. perceived a flashing like fire against his window, and fearing some house near him had been on fire, he immediately arose and went to the Window, and looking up perceived a Star about the bignesse of the palm of his hand, it had a dusky Circle about it, two straits near half a yard long a piece went through the midst of it, which both above and below did send forth continually great Flashes of Fire; it stood directly North and South, and on the South side of it, was a point about half a quarter of a yard long, this continued for some hours and then

B 2

disap-

A Rain-bow
seen between
11 and 12 of
the clock at
night, Octob.

5. 1660.

Plin. Nat. Hist.

l. 2. c. 59.

Zanch. says
that this *Iris*
Lunaris differs
from the other

in respect of
the colour; for
in this he says
there is but

unus tantum co-
lor albus nimi-
rum Vid Zane.
de operibus dei.

p 353.

He says it por-
tends longam
tempestatem
aurum; insta-
bilem. ibid.

p. 356.

A strange Co-
met seen at
Hertford Octob.
11. 1660.

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

disappeared; it was seen also by several other credible persons at Hertford, from whom this Relation comes.

VIII.

A meteor in the form of a Dart seen hanging over London. This is by the Philosopher cal'd *Bolis*. Vid. *Magiri. Physol.*

Much about the same time was seen by several persons near *Hornsy*, a Flame of Fire in the form of a Dart; which according to the apprehensions of the Spectators hung directly over the City of London.

IX.

l. 4. c. 2.
Two Meteors like a Ship-streamer or a Beesom seen in Woodstreet, Octob. 12. 1660.

IN Woodstreet, London, upon the 12. of Octob. 1660. about four of the Clock in the Afternoon, was seen by several of the Inhabitants there, a fiery Meteor in the form of a Ship-streamer, or as others apprehended of a Beesom, with the great end foremost, about two yards in length; it passed with a very swift motion from West to East, And as some of the Spectators do affirm, it made a great noise as it passed by; immediately upon it followed another of the same form, but not of the same bigness. The Information comes from eye-witnesses.

Such a prodigious sign in this Form, though of longer continuance, appeared in Anno 1550. when the persecution began to wax hot in Scotland against the Professors of the Truth. Vid. Clark's Prodigies, pag. 490.

X.

Five naked Men seen in the Air at Shenley, Octob. 17. 1660.

AT Shenley in Hertfordshire (Octob. 17. 1660. being the day wherein Colonel Scroop, Col. Jones, and some others were Executed at Charing-cross) was seen in the Air towards the Evening, the Sky being very clear, the appearance of Five naked Men exceeding bright and glorious, moving very swiftly, and after a little time a great Hill intercepted the sight of them. The Report of this was received from an Eye-witness, who is not in the least suspected to be a Phanatique, but hath given evident proof to the contrary; he doth constantly affirm the Truth of it, and offers to confirm it by his Oath.

XI.

A bright Star appearing at noon-day over the Quarters which were set up upon Algate.

Not long after this viz. the same day when the Quarters of the several Executed persons were set up upon the Gates of the City, there appeared at Noon-day, a bright Star over Algate, for two or three hours together, and continued so for

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

5

4 or 5 days; Of this many hundreds in the City passing that way, together with the adjacent Inhabitants were dayly Spectators during the time before specified.

XII.

ALso at *Bishops gate* there appeared seven Pillars of smoke (one whereof was bigger then the rest) ascending from the seven Quarters which were first set up upon the Gate; they reached up towards Heaven as high as the beholders could well discern.

Seven Pillars of Smoke seen ascending from the Quarters over *Bishops gate*. Two Quarters more having been since set upon the same Gate.

XIII.

AT *Tittie* in *Surrey*, Octob. 29. 1660. about 8 or 9 of the Clock in the Evening, there appeared in the Heavens three Moons of equal bignesse and brightnesse at a little distance from each other. The Relation come from eye-witnesses, who were many, and some of good Note and Quality.

Three Moons were seen at *Tittie* in *Surrey* Octo. 19. 1660.

In *Ireland*, Anno 1342. October 11, the Moon being 11 days old, were seen at *Dublin*, two Moons. *Camb. Britt. Ireland*, p. 188. Also in the Month of March, Anno 1551. in the year wherein the Duke of Somerset was beheaded, and the Disputes were in Germany about Religion, and the French made war with the Emperour, three Moons were seen together here in England. The like happened also Annis 1644, 1645, 1646, 1647. The like happened a little before the bloody Wars between the Romans and Carthaginians brake forth. *Livius Hist.*

XIV.

Three persons Inhabitants of *Austy* in *Hertfordshire* going before Day, Octob. 30. 1660. with Malt-horses to *Ware Market*, were on a sudden smitten with a terrible Flash of Lightning; after which the Air continued very light, and grew brighter and brighter, and they looking from whence this great light should come, saw, as they conceived, full East before them, a very dreadful Fire, and concluded that some House at *Meisden* had been on Fire; but they having not ridden much further, perceived the Fire in a great Body to Ascend, and the Sky opening to receive it; and as it went up, three Stars one immediately after another fell down from it perpendicularly; and when they fell, the Earth seemed lighter then at any

A fiery Meteor seen near *Misden* in *Hertfordshire*, from which did fall down perpendicularly three Stars, whereby the Earth was exceedingly enlightened. The Meteor afterwards turned into the form of a sickle and then into the Form of a Sythe.

time

time by the brightest Moon-light. Some part of the Body of Fire which ascended, remained yet in their View, and after a little space, it turned into the direct Form of a Sickle with a handle, and afterwards it grew much like to a Syth, & continu'd in that Form till the Day-light swallowed it up. The Spectators are very credible Persons from whom this Relation comes.

XV.

A fiery Meteor
in the Form of
a Dragon seen
between Had-
ham and Ware,
Octob. 30. 1660.

THe same Morning also some going before Day with their Carts, from about *Hadham* side in *Hertfordshire* to *Ware*, saw a Body of Fire in the Sky, of divers colours like the Rainbow, which presently turn'd into the perfect Form of a Dragon, and immediately fell down to the ground, and by the fall of it, the Earth was so lightned, that they could have seen a penny upon the Ground, as the Spectators themselves do affirm, From whom we have this whole Relation.

This kind of Meteor is called by the Philosopher Draco Volans. And about the time of the Bohemian Persecution, viz. in the year 1624. such a fiery Dragon was seen throughout all Bohemia and Silesia, Vid. Bohem. Hist. p. 356. The like also was seen in Scotland, Novemb. 25. 1656. which was confirmed by several Letters from thence at that time, a true and full Description of it; together with the Portends thereof you in a Book called Miraculum Signum Cœleste, page 28. 29, &c.

XVI.

A Body of fire
ascending into
the Air till it
fixed it self in
the Sky like a
Star seen be-
tween Hert-
ford & London,
Octob. 30. 1660.

THe same morning likewise before day when it was very dark, five Neighbours going from *Hertford* to *London*, did alight by the way and walked to get themselves a heat, and as they were getting up upon their Horses, again, there came a sudden Flash of Fire which made it so light, that they could perfectly discern as at noon day any thing upon the ground, their Horses also seemed to be all on fire, but within a little space this Body of Fire rose up again into the Air, with a Tayl about a Pole long, and went Eastward, where at last it fixed it self in the Sky like a Star.

A ball of fire
was seen to
come out of
the Heavens
and fell upon a
Gentlemans
House.

XVII.

UPon the same morning very early the Waggoner of *Wickham* in the County of *Bucks* came towards *London* with his Waggon and divers Passengers in it, about a mile from *Wickham* they

they all saw to their great afrightment, the Heavens open, and a large Ball of Fire about the bignesse (to use the Relaters own phrase) of a great Kettle, in a terrible manner descending and falling as they conceived upon a Gentlemans house near a quarter of a mile from them, and they verily thought, because the fire brake in pieces on the house, it had been set on fire by it, but afterwards they found it to be otherwise: immediately upon this they saw another ball of fire descending in the same manner with the former, which fell upon a Wood very near to the Road wherein they were travelling, and they conceived that the whole Wood had been in a flame: A third ball also came down and fell upon the Earth and was broken into several pieces; during this time which was about the space of half an hour the Air was exceeding light, so that the Passengers in the Waggon could perfectly discern each other, and see to read an ordinary Print, but immediately after it was as dark as before. This Relation comes from some of the aforesaid Passengers particularly from the Waggoner and his Wife.

Another fell upon a wood. And a third upon the Ground. These were seen Octob. 30. 1660.

XVIII.

SEveral persons on the same 30 of October going from Uxbridge to Brainford between 3 and 4 of the Clock in the morning, saw in the Sky a very great light standing East and West; that part towards the East was as broad as a very large Table; that part towards the West seemed to them to be a Tail of about 30 yards long as near as they could guess, it did so enlighten the air that they could see to read the smallest Print, It continued till near break of day, and then divided in the middle, half went to the East, and half to the West, and so by degrees disappeared; several Inhabitants of Uxbridge in their journey to Brainford and others at home in their houses were eye-witnesses hereof, and did relate it to a Citizen of London a person of known worth and integrity, from whom we received this Information.

A fiery Meteor with a Tail 30 yards long, seen between Uxbridge and Brainford, Octo. 30. 1660.

A Meteor much like this in form was seen near Bristow in the month of January, Anno 1648. which is published in print by an able godly Minister in London, who received the information from an eye-witnesse. Vid Clarks Prod. p. 483.

The Parallel.

XIX.

A great bright
star seen at
Yelden in
Bedfordshire,
Oct. 30. 1660.

AT Yelden in Bedfordshire the same morning very early was seen a great Star which stood North-East and South-West, it gave so great a light, that some inhabitants there, who were up so soon that morning upon their occasions could see to do business in the house by the light of it; one credible person there beheld it two hours together, and at last see it turn into the perfect form of a Roman S, and then presently it divided in the middle, and one half went to the North-east, and the other to the South-west, and so by degrees disappeared. Two other persons of credit in Northamptonshire, not many miles from Yelden, saw the same morning a very great light in their chamber which they much wondered at, because it was not the time for the Moon to shine, but they not rising out of their beds saw not the Star as others did from whom this relation comes.

The Paralel.

In the year 389. a little before the Scots and the Picts invaded Brittain, did arise in the North a great Star much bigger then the day-star, and shined several mornings together, viz. discourse of Prod. p.88.

XX.

A fiery Meteor
seen near
Pickadilla a
flight-shot in
length and 5
foot in breadth,
Oct. 30. 1660.

ABout five of the Clock in the morning the same 30 of Octob. 1660. two persons of credit living near Pickadilla, going over the field by the Pall-mall, heard a noise in the Air, as if a pound of Gunpowder had been fired; and looking up they saw a body of fire bigger then the Moon, from which there issued a stream of fire towards the East a flight-shot in length and 5 foot in breadth; There were also two shorter streams of fire issuing from the same body South-east and South. This relation comes from one of those two persons who were the eye-witnesses.

XXI.

A fiery Meteor
seen Octob. 30.
1660. near
Harleston,
which grew
into the pro-
portion and
shape of a man
and then va-
nished.

Several considerable persons near Harleston in Norfolk between 4 and 5 of the clock in the morning on the aforesaid 30 of Octob. saw a very great fire in the Air flaming every way, and sparkling exceedingly, it seemed to them to roll up and down in the Air: and it gave so great a light, that one of the Relaters saith he could see to do any work as well as if he had many Torches by him. This fiery Meteor after a while, as the Spectators conceived, grew into the proportion and shape

shape of a man, and continued so for an hour, and then by degrees disappeared.

XXII.

TWO Inhabitants of *Ipswich* travelling between 3 and 4 of the clock in the same morning towards *Thwayt* saw very strange and terrible flashes of Lightning, and looking up they discerned in the Sky two great balls of Fire, the one North-east, which was the greatest, the other South-west; the first gliding downward, divided it self into small pieces sparkling, and after a while gathered up it self into a body again, and then turned into a Cloud of a blood-red colour, and soon after vanished. They were so intent upon this in the North-east that they can give no account what became of that which appeared in the South-west. These two last particulars we received information of from a very worthy person who had an account of them from the Spectators themselves, men of repute and credit in the places of their habitation.

Another fiery Meteor seen between *Ipswich* & *Thwayt* Octob. 30. 1660.

XXIII.

ABOUT the same day an Inhabitant of *Midhurst* in the County of *Sussex* going to *Chichester* about 10 of the Clock in the forenoon, beheld one end of a Cloud exceeding bright like to the Sun it self, and presently there appeared the likeness of a head with well set hair, & by it immediately appeared another head and so a Third, but they all quickly vanished away together.

The appearance of three Heads seen in a bright cloud between *Midhurst* and *Chichester*.

XXIV.

ABOUT the beginning of *Novemb.* certain Tradesmen going to *Thame* Faire, about two of the clock in the morning as they passed between the two *Wickhams* saw a very great Light upon the Ground, spreading it self near a mile in compass, very dreadful and terrible to behold, insomuch that many of them apprehended that the day of judgement was come; afterwards it gathered up into a Pillar of Fire, and therein they clearly discerned an Army brandishing a Flaming Sword.

A great light covering the ground for a mile in compass, and then ascending like a pillar of fire, in which appeared an arm brandishing a flaming sword.

XXV.

TWO men coming from about *Avery Hatch* near *Ilford* in *Essex* towards *London*, very early in the morning, *Novemb.* 5. 1660. saw in the South-west a fiery bright Cloud, which in a little time was dispersed, and from under it appeared two

Two stars as big as the Moon seen contesting each with other.

and one of them did seem to pour down Blood and fire successively.

Stars as big as the Moon, and to their apprehensions they did with great violence contend each with other; and after they had contested a while one the Stars by degrees grew dimmer and lesser, and the other brighter and larger, till at length one of them totally disappeared, the other continued in their sight at least two hours, a great part of which time they saw streaming from it as they conceived successively streams of fire and streams of blood, and (to use their own words) the blood streamed from it as if it had been poured out of a Pail or Bucket. This Star afterwards by degrees lessened till it came to the proportion of an ordinary Star, and so continued till they entred into *White-Chappel*. All this was received from the mouths of the Spectators by many persons of eminency in *London*, both that morning they came to Town, and at several times since.

XXVI.

A great Star of divers colours seen in *Spittle fields*, *Novemb. 6. 1660.* and at several other times.

Several Persons in *Spittle-field*, *Novemb. 6. 1660.* and so for many mornings together about seven of the Clock, have seen in the heavens a very strange Star much bigger then the morning Star; those who looked upon it through a Prospective-Glasse (and amongst them the person from whom we received the account was one) could easily discern it to be of three several colours; on the one part it was blewish like the flaming of Brimstone, in the middle it was clear like the usual colour of a Star, and on the opposite part it was like the Flame of a smoaking Fire.

XXVII.

Fire appearing upon Horses Heads and on Travellers Switches as they rode between *Hull* and *Beverly* in a great storm of Thunder and Lightning, *November 10. 1660.*

By Letters from persons of very good credit, Inhabitants of *Hull*, it is certified, that on the 10 of *Novemb. 1660.* there was about six of the Clock in the Evening, a very sore and dreadful Thunder and Lightning, some that were riding that Evening from *Beverly* to *Hull* and other places, thought that their Horses heads and the sticks in their Fellow-travellers hands had been of a light fire.

This is somewhat like to that which by Philosophers is called *Ignis Lambens*, which they say is *plane prodigiosum & sine omni causa Physica. Magiri. Phys. 4. Lib. 4. Cap. 2.*

Also by other Letters out of *York-shire* from very good hands, we are assured that about the same time there hath been very sore Thundring and Lightning to the great terror and amazement

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

11

ment of the Inhabitants; whereof the more notice is to be taken, because such Tempests are not usual at that season of the year.

XXVIII.

Several credible persons, Inhabitants of *Harsham* in *Sussex*, coming towards *London* very early in the Morning, as they were riding thro' *Smithans* bottom near *Croyden*, on a sudden saw a very great Light, and the Hill on their left hand appeared as it had been all on a Flame: in a little time that great light divided it self into two distinct lights, wherein seemed to them to be two distinct Armies engaging and pushing one against the other; they beheld them in this posture a very considerable space of time, till at last there fell an exceeding thick Fog which made it very dark, and the smell of the Fog was as the smell of Gunpowder. This Relation was received by a Contributor to this Collection from an eye-witnesse.

Armies seen in the Heavens engaged in Fight against each other.

Prodigies like to this have at several times happened in many places, & the events hath been alwaies very signal & remarkable.

The Paralel.

Thus did God forewarn the Jews of the distruction of themselves, their City and Temple which was effected not long after by Titus Vespasian. See Joseph. Lib. 7. of the Jewish Wars, Cap. 12.

The like also appeared in England Anno 1415, not long before that Famous fight at Agin Court in France wherein the English slew upon the place 10000 French, and took as many Prisoners. Vid. Signum Celeste, &c. p 126.

About the same time also Pope Gregory died, ibid.

The great alteration of state and the prosecution of bloody wars in Italy by Charles the 8. King of France; was portended and foresigned (amongst other things) by the apparition of great Armies of men, joyning battle over Aretium, a Town in Tuscany says Dr. Jackson in a Sermon of his before the late King Charles, Entituled, the Signs of the time, on Luke 13. 5. p. 12.

In the Low Countries, Anno 1588. Armies were often seen in the Heavens; and not long after the Prince of Orange, brought an Army into the field against Duke De Alva in behalf of the Protestants. and through the blessing of God was instrumental thereby to deliver that people from so cruel and bloody a persecutor, Strada.

The people in Germany were often spectators of the like Prodigies, and they were still the forerunners of some bloody Fights, Skirmishes, or Sieges, at or near those places where they were first seen. Thus it happened at Linz. 2 in Austria, as you may see

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

at large in the Germ. Prod. p. 10. 11. and so also in Silesia, ibid. p. 17. 18. But more especially in the year, 1628. at Sunderbury in Pomerland two Armies appeared in the Heavens, the one from the North the other from the South; they engaged against each other till the Army from the North seemed totally to rout and destroy the other. About two years after, the Renowned Gustavus Adolphus King of Sweden landed his Army from the North near the place before mentioned and not far from it did engage with the Imperial Army, & totally vanquished it. Vid. Germ. Prod. p. 31. 32.

The like was seen also June 18. 1631. At Alherleban in the lower Saxony: not long after between the said Town and Tangermund, the Swedes did great execution upon the Imperialists; and so at several other times within that year to the almost utter destruction of Tillyes Gallant Army, which you may read at large in the Germ. prod. p. 44. 45. 46.

We our selves also in England have of late times known this kind of apparition, and by too sad experience felt the meaning of it. It is fresh in the memory of many, that in Anno 1640. not long before our unbappy civil Wars, Armies were seen in the Heavens divers times and in divers places by many discreet persons of quality, which, sayes an Author, were looked upon as sad presages of the ensuing broils Baker Chron. p. 493. 494.

The coming in and the defeating of Duke Hambletons Army, Anno 1648. was clearly portended by the appearance in the Heavens of a Southern and Northren Army in Yorkshire, and the Northern Armies being beaten by the other. The truth whereof many yet alive can testifie.

XXIX.

A great bright
Star as big as
the Moon
seen in Hounds
ditch Decemb.
2. 1660.

AN honest man an Inhabitant in Houndsditch near Bishopsgate, affirms that on the 1. of Decemb. 1660. about 5 of the Clock in the Morning, he saw in the East a very bright Star as big as the Moon; he called up several of his Family to see it, who also were eye-witnesses of it with himself; from whom immediately we received this information.

XXX.

A great bright
Star seen at
Stoke New-
ington, Decemb.
5. 1660.

A Citizen of good Note in London, having occasion to stay all night, Decemb. 4. 1660. at Stoke-Newington, in the Morning about 5 of the Clock, saw a very great Light in his Chamber, and being much amazed at it, he arose out of his bed and went to the window, and looking out he saw towards the

the East, a very great bright twinkling Star, as big (according to his own relation) as many fix Stars that he ever saw before, it shone so bright that he could have seen to read or doe any other business in his Chamber by the Light of it; He beheld it a quarter of an hour, and being very cold returned to his bed again. This Relation we have from the Gentlemans own mouth.

In the year 1572. there appeared in Cathedra Cassiopeæ, a large bright Star (though not so big as either of these two last mentioned,) the effect whereof was seen in a very great darrth of Corn, as also all other provisions. Baker. Chron. p. 422. The Parallel.

XXXI.

IT is Certified by a Letter from a very good hand in York-shire, that six sober discreet persons being very early upon the Road, saw a fiery Apparition in the Aire, wherein they discerned 2 or 3 Steeples and several Cathedrals, some burning, others rent and torn irreparably, others subverted with the Pinacles downwards, and by one of the Pinacles stood an Angel with a flaming Sword. Several Steeples and Cathedrals seen burning in the Air, some subverted, others torn irreparably, &c.

XXXII.

BY another Letter also from a person of Credit in York-shire, to an Eminent Citizen in London, it is certified that a little before the last great Wind which hapned Decemb. 8. 1660. There was seen in Brama More in York-shire, the Form of a Steeple in the Sky, which presently grew red, and then the Heavens seemed to open, and great Flashes of Fire proceeded out and fired the Steeple, which presently tumbled down with a long Cross-hilted Sword hanging at it; Also at the same time & place was seen the Form of a Church all on fire, which tumbled down as the other with a long Pike hanging at it. A Steeple fired in the Air, and tumbled down with a Sword hanging at it. Another Steeple fired also, and tumbled down with a Pike hanging at it.

XXXIII.

ABOUT the latter end of December last, at Horsey Downs between 2 and 3 a clock in the morning, several credible persons saw the Heavens open, and there appeared a standing Field of Corn, and reapers coming forth to reap it with Sickles in their hands, and a Lyon standing over the Reapers. A standing Field of Corn seen in the Heavens near Horsey Downs, and Reapers coming forth to reap it.

XXXIV.

ABOUT the 14 of January last, betwixt two and three of the Clock in the morning, there appeared a very great Light over A Sheet of fire mingled with blood,

seen directly
over Paul's,
Jan. 14. 1660.

over the City of London, some persons of credit dwelling in *Pater noster row*, being up, upon some occasion so early that morning, went forth and saw as they have since related directly over *Pauls* a sheet of Fire mingled with blood, the Spectators acquainted some of us herewith.

XXXV.

A fiery Sword
over the west-
part of London,
Jan. 22. 1660.

AT *Hogsden* near London, Jan. 22. 1660. in the Evening was seen by several honest discreet persons, a very great Light towards the South-west, some of the Spectators thought that some part of the City of *Westminster* had been on fire; After they had for a little space of time viewed this fiery Light, they plainly observed to come out of it a long white Streak in the Form of a Sword pointing towards the North-west. This Relation we received from a very honest credible person an eye-witnesse.

The Parallel.

An Apparition not altogether unlike this was seen over Jerusalem not long after the Destruction of it by Titus Vespasian, Joseph. Hist. of the Jewes Wars Lib. 7. Chap. 12.

Over the City Bribech on the 6. of March, 1632. in the Evening, was seen in the Air, a long fiery Sword; the next year Gustavus Horn the Swedish Field-Marshal did defeat the Catholick Army, killed many, and took the said City after the Inhabitants had been brought to miserable extremities. Vid. Ger. Prod. p. 52. 53.

Such a Sword was seen over Rome a little before it was taken by the Goths, and so great a slaughter made of the Romans as the like was never known in any Age before. Lycost. p. 286.

XXXVI.

A great Fire
seen in the Air
over the white
Tower.

AN inhabitant in the Town much about the same time, having occasion to be out of his house about 12 of the clock at night, saw a very great Fire in the Air directly over the White Tower; He presently called forth some others to behold it, who also were eye-witnesses with him thereof, from one of whom we received this Information.

XXXVII.

Strange flash-
ings of Fire
seen in the Air
over Govent-
Garden.

THere are probable Reports of several other strange Apparitions that were seen about the same time over White Tower; But because we have no clear nor certain proof of them, only this is most true, that several inhabitants in the Tower, did in the Months of *January* and *February* for several Evenings

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

Evenings together see a very strange and unusual flashings of Fire in the Air over *Covent Garden* and the parts adjacent.

XXXVIII.

ABout the latter end of *January* and the beginning of *Febr.* 1660. was seen by divers credible persons over *Westminster* a blazing Star, which continued several nights together; It is likewise most certainly true, that in the month of *October* and since, hath been sometimes in the East, sometimes in the South-west, sometimes in the East and South-west, a Comet or blazing Star, between 3 and 4 of the Clock in the morning, this hath been observed by very many discreet and sober persons in and about *London*, as also in divers other places in this Nation.

A blazing Star
seen over *West-*
minster.

In the year 1660. a Comet or blazing Star appeared to the People in this Land, and not long after *Wil. Duke of Normandy* defeating *King Harold* and his Army, obtained the Crown of *England.* *Stow. Chron. p. 98, 99.*

The Parallel.

Upon that blazing Star and the Effects thereof were made the following Verses.

*A Thousand six and sixty years, It was as we do read,
When that a Comet did appear, And English men lay dead;
Of Normandy, Duke William then, To England ward did sail,
Who conquer'd Harold & his men, & brought this land to bail.*
ibid. p. 101.

In the year also 1401 was seen a blazing Star, which says my Author. did perhaps foreshew the effusion of blood which followed after in *Wales* and *Northumberland,* See *Baker Chron. p. 178.*

Anno 1580 Octob. 10 or 7 Comet was seen, and not long after the Pope sends several companies of *Italians* and *Spaniards* to the aid of the *Earl of Desmond* in his Rebellion in *Ireland*; but they were soon through the blessing of God Defeated, and many hundreds of them put to the Sword, *Stow. Chron. p. 668.*

We need not mention the Comet seen in the year 1618, and what bloody wars did ensue immediately both in *Germany*, *Poland*, *Italy* & indeed all the Christian world over, whereof you may read at large in *Stow* & many other famous Chronologies & historians.

XXXIX.

Much about the same time by letters from very credible persons living at *Derby*, we are assured that there was seen in the Air a great body of fire as big as two or three ordinary houses,

Fire was seen
to fly over
Derby.

houses, which to the very great terror and afrightment of the Inhabitants, did fly over the Town of Derby, and caused such a light that one might have seen to have taken up a pin by the light of it.

XL

Strange and terrible noises heard in the Air as of beating of Drums, the reports of great and small Guns, &c.

ABout the end of this month of *January*, a person of honesty and discretion by the importunity of some of his Children who had been abroad, was prevailed with to go forth to take notice of a strange noise which his Children told him they had heard in the Air; Upon this going forth he did hear a strange rushing noise, and that he might the better satisfie himself about it, he went further into an open Field not far from his house, where he plainly saw toward the North a black Cloud, and in the Cloud he heard a great rushing noise as of a shower of Rain or Hail; but about the Cloud he saw the Sky was very clear, After a little space of time he heard perfectly the sound of a Drum beating in the Cloud, and after that the report of great and small Guns which continued for a long time; afterwards about that black Cloud, where before it was very clear, there appeared many small Clouds which flying swiftly every way did smite and dash one against another; He looked at it till he was weary, and then returned to his house, and in his way thither did still hear the noise of Drums and Guns as before.

This Prodigy happened in Austria in the year 1621. and the month of March, and not long after near the place where those noises were heard, very bloody Skirmishes and Fights were between the Swedes and the Imperialists, Germ. Prod. p. 10.

It is generally known that these kind of Noises were often heard in the Air in several parts of England, not long before the unhappy breaking out of our civil VVars.

And in the year 1658 Octob. 10. the noise of Guns vnd Drums was heard in the Air by many considerable persons in York-shire about Holderneffe, Holden, Heddon, Patrington, &c. and severall other places; it continued about half an hour, during which time, there was a great mist in the Air like smoak, and the earth seemed to quake and tremble; This thing is so generally received as a truth in those parts, there being yet alive so many that heard it, that it is above all contradiction.

XI.

IN the month of *Feb.* 1660. A Citizen of note, with some other Passengers came from *Gravesend* in a night that was so dark that the water-men lost their way, and in 6 hours time had not gone above 4 or 5 miles; in the midst of this darkness, there appeared a fearful fire in the Heavens, which brake forth like a sheaf of corn all on a burning flame, and continued so about the space of a quarter of an hour, then was it obscured for the space about half a quarter of an hour, and after that flamed again near a quarter of an hour, and afterwards disappeared. The Relation comes from the aforesaid Citizen one of the Passengers.

A Meteor in the Heavens like a sheaf of Corn on a burning flame.

XLI.

ABout the 26. of *Feb.* last, a discreet sober Gentleman, and of good quality, an inhabitant of the Town of *Darken* in *Surrey*, being abroad in the Evening, saw a strange cloud in the Air, & in it the appearance of two Churches, the one was in the form of a Cathedral, very spacious and glorious, having upon it divers goodly Pinacles, and each of them a long streamer flying upwards upon it, and as he beheld it, he thought it grew up to a greater splendor and glory, glittering and shining exceedingly; he saw also not far from it (which he could scarcely discern) another Church which was very mean and little in respect of the former, and he especially observed, that when the great Church was most glorious, then the little one was most dark and obscure, yet he plainly discerned a very bright star in the midst of it, and another bright star between the two Churches; after this Gentleman had for some time with great admiration beheld this strange apparition, he perceived a small puffe as of breath upon the stately Cathedral Church, and immediately it fell down and vanished away; Then he saw the little Church with the star begin to appear more bright and glorious, but upon some special occasion being earnestly called into his house, he saw not the issue of it, which since hath been a very great trouble to him; This comes from the Spectators one mouth, who hath been alwaies observed to be very averse to give the least credit to relations of this nature, he was by his his own eyes convinced of the truth of this.

The appearance of two Churches in the Heavens, the one like a Cathedral, the other a very small one, &c.

XLII.

ABout 8 of the clock at night, *March* 14. 1660, some of the Inhabitants of *Plaiſtow* in the Parish of *West-Ham* near *London*, saw for some hours together a fiery great flame of fire

A Flame of Fire seen over *London*.

over the City of *London*, as near as they could guess, it was so great that a very knowing person, an eye-witness, (from whom we received this information) did declare to us, that he believed he should the next morning have heard that half the City had been consumed by fire, but coming to *London* the next day, he found his fears prevented, though his admiration very much heightened.

The Paralel.

Such fires were seen in many places Anno 1098. and says my Author, *secuta est animalium pestilentia, & segetes nimio imbre & æruginè corruptæ sunt*, there followed upon it a great pestilence, and the spoiling of the fruits of the earth by too much rain and blasting, L. cost. pag. 380. 390.

The like also happened in severall other places, with the like effects, Anno Mundi 3496. *ibid.* p. 75. 76.

Rome also was once taken, not long after such kind of Meteors were seen over it, though soon delivered again by *Lucr. Liu. Hist.*

The like Prodigy was seen a little before the great divisions happened between the *Patricii* and the *Plebei* in Rome, and so strong attempt were made to bring in the *Decem viri*, Anno Mundi, 3505, L. cost. p. 73.

XLIII.

A bright
cloud runing
to and fro in
the air, and
dropping
down fire up-
on *W. H.* and
the *P. H.*
March 14.
1660.

SEveral Passengers coming in a Boat from *Putney* to *London*, about 8 of the Clock at night, March 14 1660. when they were near *Westminster* saw a dark and black cloud hanging over *W. H.* which after a little space of time passed away, and in the room of it appeared a white bright Cloud, which gave such a light that they could plainly discern the windows of the Parliament House, and people walking to and fro upon *Westminster* bridge, though before it was exceeding dark; whilst they beheld this Cloud, they saw it drop down fire several times upon *W. H.* and then it removed and stood over the *P. H.* and did drop down fire upon that also several times, then it removed back again to *W. H.* and dropt down fire again and then went back again to the *P. H.* and did the like again there, and so continued to do it successively 4 or 5 times together, to the affrightment of the Passengers, but especially the Watermen; One of the Gentlemen that was in the Boat came (as we have been informed) that night to *W. H.* and related this story to several persons there, the same apparition was seen at the same time & over the same places by divers Travellers that came from *Kensington* towards *London* that night.

XLIV.

XLIV.

SOME credible Persons passing upon the *Thames* about eight of the clock at night, *March 21. 1660.* beheld in the Heavens a fiery Meteor as big as a Man, which in a short time brake into many hundred of large Sparkles of Fire, and seemed to them to be Lights in the Sky shaped like Pyramids, sharp at the top and square at the bottom.

A fiery Meteor breaking into several pieces.

XLV.

UPON the 21. of *March 1660.* between 7 and 8 of the clock in the evening, was seen in the Air at *London-bridg* by very many judicious & sober Citizens, full West, or West by North, several Forms and Figures variously metamorphosed, being the perfect shapes and representations of several Beasts, One Monster, sundry Men, and two Armies. The Relation take as followeth, as it was drawn up by several of the Spectators, who immediately while the thing was yet fresh in their minds, went together, and every one contributing his Observations, they agreed unanimously upon the ensuing Description.

Strange apparitions in the Heavens seen by many at *London bridge, Mar. 21. 1660.*

1 There appeared the figure of a great Cathedral with a high Tower or Steeple advancing it self in the middle of it, which after a short continuance vanished.

2 There was represented the form of an Oak with very large arms and spreading boughes, which also vanished after a short season.

3. The third figure was a very large Mountain, of which the Pyramid or lesser part stood downward, being placed between the said Cathedral and the Oak, which remained fixed for the space of a quarter of an hour without any variation at all; And after that these five several forms of Beasts of Prey seemed to issue from the right hand, or North part thereof, viz.

1 The first whereof was in the form of a devouring Crocodile coming out of the middle of the Altitude of the said Mountain, and downward with the mouth wide open, which after a short space changed it self.

2 Into the form of a furious Bull, which was in a short time Metamorphosed. And in the

3 Third place represented it self in the form of a fierce Lyon Rampant which was also suddenly. And in the

4 Place altered into the figure of a perfect Bear, which was immediately turned. And in the

5. Place into a Swine or Bore; And so there were the representations of a devouring Crocodile, a furious Bull a fierce Rampant Lyon, and a beattly Bore or a Swine which alternately issued out of this great Mountain, which so stood or rose up between the said Cathedral and the Oak, all which eight apparitions being quite vanished, the same Mountain seemed suddenly to rend and divide it self from the top, but greatest part thereof into two distinct parts, which again were immediately formed into 2 very beasts fastned or chained together by the hinder parts, the one seeming to draw one way, and the other drawing the quite contrary way, viz. That on the left hand which faced and drew towards the South, resembled an Elephant with a Castle on his back.

That on the right hand towards the North, seemed to be a Lion or most like unto a Lion to all the beholders, but none could so clearly discern what this tenth figure was as they did the rest; But it stood on the right hand with its head Northerly, and seemed with all its might to draw the Elephant that way, But suddenly after the Castle on the Elephants back vanished, the Elephant himself loosing his shape.

And then in the very position or station where the Castle stood (as near as we could judge) we clearly observed about 5 or 6 Men rise up, which during their continuance were in an uninterrupted Agitation and perplexed motion to and fro, backwards and forwards.

After this the other of those two Beasts which were fastned together and seemed to look and draw North and South as aforesaid (viz.) That on the right hand in the form of or most resembling a Lion, was of a sudden and in a moment wonderfully transformed into the shape of a Horse with a Rider upon his back; but both suddenly seem to fall downwards; and so

There arose another Cloud which in a short time formed it self into the perfect resemblance or lively figure of the head of a Whale, having his mouth also wide open. And then

There appeared on the right hand at a further distance North-west or N. W. and by N. Another Cloud which represented it self to our view in the perfect form of a great head with a Cap thereupon, in the perfect form of a Cardinal's Cap as the same are usually pictured, having two horns of a very considerable length affixed therunto, And between the
said

said Whales head and the said other head or Cap which had the said large Horns, there were again a few men more seen, moving up and down with a very swift motion; But all these men also suddenly disappeared, one onely excepted continued but a little longer then the rest moving up and down in much Majesty, magnificence and state. And then

There arose another great confused Cloud near unto the said great Head and Cardinals Cap, which had the two large Horns, but something more Northerly, which Cloud after a little time seemed like unto some large ruinous structure or building seen at a great distance, but while the beholders were looking wistly thereupon, the same then perfectly appeared to be a formidable Army or body of men set in Battalia which advanced Southward. And then

There arose another Cloud on the left hand towards the South leaving that single Magistick person a little more Southerly, which Cloud formed it self into an Army, which was lesse then the first or Northern Army; This Southern or lesse Army advanced it self, with much seeming Celerity and speed against the said greater Northern Army, and being come near each other, the said single Magistick person vanished, and by or about the time he was totally extinct; Then both Armies seemed furiously to encounter and assail each other, and after the fierce on-set or charge, both Armies seemed to retreat a little, and then as formerly they made a second furious charge, during which time although the front of the Southern Army stood stoutly to it and seemed to get ground of the Northern main body, and made them seem a little to retreat, yet the Arrair of the Southern Army seemed to be discomposedly confused, and by degrees totally extinct whereupon the said Northern Army made a third and furious Charge, against the Front or remainders of the Southern Army, and they against the Northern Army; and being so engaged both Armies seemed a little to retreat, so as an interval was seen between them; And then without any discernable victory obtained by either party, the heads of the men of the said Armies which before were clearly discernable, became a confused Cloud or Chaos and so vanished away both together; But the whole duration of all these three fierce Fights, Conflicts, Combates or Battles were very short and transient, and continued not in the whole for
above

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

above half a quarter of an hour, and then all seemed to descend into the great Horizon Clouds, so far forth as these Spectators could or did then and there observe that night save only that in the last place.

The First and longest whereof seemed to be fixed to the middle part of some houses or building near Charingcross.

The Second longest or middlemost seemed likewise to be burning about the middle part of some houses in the Strand.

The last and shortest seemed likewise to the burning as aforesaid upon some houses or buildings either on or about, or between the Temple and Fleet-bridge.

XLVI.

Two Moons
seen at Chiswick
April 12.
1661.

A Prill the Twelfth 1661. about one of the Clock in the Morning were seen at Chiswick in the County of Middlesex two Moones, some of the Spectators did assure an honest Citizen of London of the Truth thereof from whose mouth we received this information.

The Parallel.

Two Moones were seen at Dublin in Ireland, October 11. 1342. and not many Months after that, people endured most grievous Oppressions by the meanes of the Lord Ralph Ufford who came into Ireland as Lord chief Justice, concerning whom we read in Histories that none of his Predecessours were comparable to him, he was a great Oppressour of the people, a Robber of the Goods both of Clergy and Laity, and much more to the same purpose sayes Mr. Cambden in his Annals of Ireland, page 188, 189.

XLVII.

Four Rain-
bows seen
near Aulton in
Hampshire.

IN the Month of April. 1661. about four or five of the clock in the Evening, after a great storm of Rain and Hail, were seen by several credible persons near Aulton in Hampshire, four perfect Rain-bows standing directly over each other, and a little distance between every one of them; The two lowermost were not altogether so large, neither did they extend themselves so far as the other two did; This Information we received from an eminent Citizen of London who was then in the Countrey upon some occasions, and was an Eye-witness thereof.

At

At Wien in Austria in the same Month of April Anno 1619. There appeared three Rain-bows in the Heavens, and in the same year, October 25. a great and bloody Fight was fought at the Donaw-bridge in the same Town of Wien betwixt the Bohemians and General Bucquoy, in which Encounter were slain on the Imperial side, 4500 &c. As you may see at large in the Germ. Prod. p. 9.

The Parallel.

XLVIII.

WE have also an account of several Rain-bows that were lately seen together by divers persons at Northallerton in York shire, the true and full Relation, whereof take as followeth, being an extract of a Letter from a Gentleman of very good quality in those parts to an eminent Citizen of London. I understand that divers persons between eleven and twelve of the clock on that great windy night, saw at North-allerton ten Rain bows, and four or five half ones; they stood all one way and together, there being about a yard distance between each of them. My Informer who with divers others saw this thing is a credible person, and yet at my House, &c.

Ten Rainbows and four half ones seen near North-allerton in York shire.

XLIX.

UPON the 23. of April, 1661. (the day of his Majesties Inauguration) about the time of that dreadful storm of Thunder and Lightning, there was seen in the Sky at Bednall-Green near London. a great Pillar of Fire, and there seemed to encompass it burning Coles of Fire, it continued a little space of time, and then vanished. The Relation comes from some of the Eye-witnesses, persons of Credit and Inhabitants there.

A great Pillar of Fire seen at Bednall Green, April 23. 1661.

L.

THE same night also about ten of the clock, were seen by several persons near Pickadilla, strange fiery Clouds and Meteors very terrible to the Spectators; from some of whose Mouths we Received the Information.

Fiery Clouds and Meteors seen at Pickadilla, April 23. 1661.

LI.

UPON Tuesday May 14. 1661. from the hours of five till seven in the Morning, were seen three Suns by several persons near Kingston upon the Thames; the one appeared Easterly a little distance from the true Sun, and was of a blood colour, the

Three Suns seen near Kingston, May 14. 1661.

Prodigies seen in the Heaven:

the other more Southerly, and was half of a blood and half of a Silver colour, All three were of equal magnitude and equal distance from each other; some of the Spectators do affirm, that when they first appeared, their position was Triangular; But afterwards they stood in a direct line, and as the true Sun arose in its Splendour, the other two by degrees disappeared; The whole Relation comes from sober discreet persons Eye-witnesses.

The Paralel.

There appeared three Suns in the Heavens not long before that contention happened between Galba, Otho and Vitellius about the Roman Empire. Clark's Prod. p. 484.

Also in the year 53. three Suns were seen at Rome upon which a great Famine did immediately ensue. Lycost. p. 247.

The like also appeared in Germany Anno 1541. about which time Popery was rejected in the Palatinate. Signum Cœlest. p. 5.

The same Prodigie was also seen near Brunswick Anno 1550. in which year great troubles did arise in Antwerp, the Inquisition opposed in the Netherlands, and several of the Princes Electors made War against the Emperour. Signum Cœlest. page 5. 6.

In the time of the German Wars three Suns were frequently seen, and there alwaies followed some bloody battle which was fought near those places; See Germ. Prod. p. 9. 11.

The like also as many credible persons have affirmed, was seen in England on the 19. of November 1648. as also in the several years, 1639, 1644, 1645, 1646, 1647. And especially in the year 1650. Not long before that famous and bloody Fight between Us and the Scots at Dunbar.

LII.

A dreadful whirl-wind accompanied with strange and prodigious apparitions in the Heavens.

UPon the 24. of May 1661. there was about Market-street, and several other places adjacent, in the Counties of Hertford, Bucks and Bedford, a dreadful whirle-wind accompanied with many strange and prodigious Apparitions in the Heavens, whereof many of the Inhabitants in those places were SPECTATORS, and the most sober and discreet that we can find out amongst them, have given us the

the substance of the following description thereof.

Several persons of very good credit inhabitants of *Kensworth* in the County of *Hertford* do inform us that upon the aforelaid 24 of *May*, 1661, in the fields of the said Parish of *Kensworth*, about two of the clock in the Afternoon they with divers others, heard a very dreadfull and strange noise in the Air, which they could not tell what to liken to, some conceived it was like a continued noise of Thunder, at some distance, others compared it to the noise of severall drums beating together; immediately after this frightfull noise, there arose a very strong and tempestuous wind, and with that a black dark Cloud with a great smoak appeared, and above the cloud and the smoak they beheld very clearly the form of two May-poles, the one of a dark, and the other of a whitish colour, they were so plainly visible that the very children (who were at the same time gathering stones in the field) took great notice of them, and were able to describe them. The Spectators had a full view of these May-poles, as they passed along in the Air, for the space of half a mile, untill they saw the whiter May-Pole wholly to vanish, and the other to loose very much of it's shape and form; This noise and representations went along from *Kensworth* to the next Town called *Caddington*, and passing through a field of one *Thomas Birchmoors*, where his Servants were then at Plow, the noise and Representations aforelaid, were so dreadful and they so affrighted therewith, that immediately with great amazement, they ran away from their work, and left their horses in the field. The wind was so violent that it took up stones in great abundance, both in the aforelaid field, and else-where, and threw them up a very great height into the Air, from this field it passed to great House, called *Caddington Berry* belonging to the Dean of *Pauls*; where a Court was kept for him at that same time, and the Cook who did dresse the dinner there that day going forth upon some occasions had been carried away by the Whirlwind, but that he took hold of something and so stayed himself as he hath since confessed: It also took off many Tyles from the said house, and a great

deal of thatch from the Barns and out-houses, it threw up the water out of a Pond there, as if (according to the relation of some of the Spectators) a thousand men had been lading of it with shovels, not far from hence it tore up divers trees by the roots, and did bow down severall very tall Spires, that the tops of them did very near touch the ground and in one place a Barn consisting of three bay of building, was taken up from the ground pinning and turned quite over.

And as it passed from *Caddington-Berry* it carried along with it as it were sheets of dirt, water and stones which it took up in the air, and were plainly discerned by the Spectators.

We have yet a further account of this strange Prodigie as it was seen by other persons in other places which you may take as followeth.

Two very discreet and sober men living near *Dunstable*, do assure us that they 2 being together on the said 24. of May, did see between *Dunstable* and *Marketstreet*, a very dark and black cloud passing towards *Caddington*, out of which there issued according to their apprehensions, a Sword, with the point hanging downwards, which grew bigger and bigger, till it came to the exact form of a Steeple with the bottom upwards, which was very dark and black but the Spire (which as we said was next the earth, and as near as the beholders could judge in the middle of the cloud) was of a brighter colour, and did very much extend it self downwards towards the Earth: But after a while it drew it self up again much like to the figure of a Steeple as before and then within a short space of time it was so abbreviated that it did not seem to them to be more then a Pole long and when it came to that Proportion the motion of it was very tremulous, so that it seemed to shake to and fro, continually. After this it extended it self downwards again, and appeared in the form and shape of a very tall Steeple, the lower end whereof did suddenly lessen to a very sharp point and quickly became perfectly taper, and then ascended up into the cloud, just like the smoke of a Chimney, and when the

the smoak was vanished they saw the shape of the Steeple again, but it did soon shorten it self till it came to be about a Pole long, and then the lower end of it did shake as before, and at the upper end of it next the cloud appeared a white streak, exceeding bright, and as near as they could judge about a foot and half long, and presently after all did center in the cloud again: immediately upon which the cloud divided, and one Part of it with an incredible swiftnesse did fly away from the other; This division of the cloud, was much about the place where they saw the Steeple before: That other part of the cloud which remained was suddenly formed into the likeness of a Mil-wheel with Cogs, and did turn round with a very swift motion, upon which there seemed to fall down dead men, spreading their Arms and legs, others as if they had been cut off at the waste, to their apprehensions, also there fell the quarters of mens bodies, as likewise the shape of mens bodies, as likewise the shape of dogs, after which all became a very white cloud, and then it's motion wholly ceased. This whole Apparition was with great deliberation drawn up by the persons themselves who saw it, and by them presented to a person of known integrity in their Neighbourhood (who is also a contributor to this collection) from whom immediately we received it.

By two very sober credible persons we are informed, that upon the same 24. of May, they saw in the Air near *Gaddesden in the County of Hertford* the form of a very high Steeple which as they apprehended it, did shake exceedingly, and by degrees it lessened it self to the Proportion of a May-pole, and for a while continued in that shape, till at last it became like to a mans thigh with the leg and foot, as also with the knee bending, after a short space it disappeared.

Also upon the same day near *Leighton Buzzard* in the County of *Bedford* severall honest persons did see in the Air, the likeness of a May-pole, sometimes very straight, and sometimes very crooked twisting like a worm: This they beheld for the space of halfe an hour, then there arose a

smoak, and from the smoak issued the appearance of fire, which suddenly seized upon and consumed the *May-pole*.

LIV.

Seven Suns
seen at *Dantz*.
about the 20 Feb
1660

THe *Dutch Currants* doth tell us of many strange *Prodigies* that have this year been seen in divers places beyond the Seas ; But because we have no other confirmation of the truth of those reports we omit here to insert them, and shal only give the Reader an Account of the seven sons that were seen at *Dantzick*, about *February* last, as it at large Related in the following extract of a Letter written from thence by a Person of Quality and ingenuity to a Merchant of good note in this City.

At *Dantz. Feb. 20. 1660. No. 511.* about 11 of the clock when the Sun was going into the South East, & the Air was very clear and still round about, I did see seven Suns together very distinctly in the Heavens, to wit, 3. coloured ones and 3 white ones besides the true Sun itself, about which was first a pretty big and almost closed circle round about, very fair of colours much like a *Rain-bow*, upon which on both sides 2. coloured Suns with the right Sun of the same altitude from the Horizon were found both of them having long, clear and somewhat whitish tails, picket as a *Comet*, the one bending towards the East, and the other towards the West. Secondly above the Circle right, over half the Sun under a verticle Line there stood a piece of an inverted Circle or *Rain-bow* very fair of all manner of colours, with another somewhat darkish collateral Sun. Thirdly there presented it self yet a great circle of all manner of colours round about the Sun which compassed the same circle was somewhat paler and not altogether shut the Horizon being too near, and the Diameter of the circle being too great, upon which upon the top of the Capital Point there was also to be seen an invert piece of a *Rain-bow* very bright and of *Orient* colours. Fourthly there came another exceeding great and whitish silver coloured circle, as it were out of both the Collateral Suns, besides the true Sunne there came out of it (which encompassed the whole Horizon.

Horizon, and stood equally from the same at the same distance; (some twenty Degrees upon the Circle) three silver coloured Suns, the one in the North, towards the West, to wit over against the right Sun, the other in the East by North, and the 3 in the West, towards the South: through these 2 last, to wit, towards the Easterly and Westerly passed a white piece in circle-wise, coming from above and passing through the great bow on which they stood; so that through both these collaterall Suns there seemed to pass a white Crosse which was very notable and wonderfull to behold, neer an hour and halt till all vanished again; So that the whole Phenomenon presented it selfe above measure, or exceeding fair, besides its very remarkable, that 7 Suns after this manner truly have scarce ever been observed to have shown themselves together; Yea if I had Somewhat sooner observ'd the Phenomenon that might have been seen nine Suns together, for I could well discern the foot-steps of two more.

Five Suns were seen in England in the 17. year of Henry the Third, after The Peasants which followed so great a Dearth, that many People were constrained to eat Horse-flesh and barks of trees, and in London twenty Thousand were starved for want of food. Baker, Chron. p. 100.

Strange Accidents, Storms, Earth quakes and other Prodigies happening on the Earth, from May 1660. to the latter end of May 1661.

BY a Letter from a very credible person in York-shire to a Citizen of note in London, it is certified that in the Month of May, 1660. there was the apparition of one clad in white, on horse-back without a head, galloping over hedges and ditches, as in plain ways, immediately upon this there was the appearance of an Army of Gray coats driving a flock of sheep towards a hedge, where they did hack and cut them as they passed through some gaps in the hedge, upon which an Army of Red-Coats fell upon the Gray-Coats and totally routed them, and then the whole disappeared.

One seen on horse-back without a head and two Armies one of gray Coats, & the other of red Coats engaging one against the other.

II.

A Lyonsess
brought forth
3 Lyons.
Vit Plin. Nat.
Lib. 8. Cap. 16.
p. 201.

IN or about the month of July, 1660. a Lyonsess in the Tower of London brought forth three Lyon whelps at a time, a birth very rarely heard of except in some Countreies at her first Litter; But in these parts of the World never known before.

III.

Hail-stones as
big as Walnuts,
accompanied
with thunder
and lightning.

AT Dover August 4. 1660. from 10. of the Clock at night to two the next morning were such storms of Hail accompanied with Thunder and Lighening as the like was never known in those parts before, some of the Hailstones that fell were as big as walnuts, some that were measured were four inches about, fifty pounds damage at least was done to Glass windows in that Town by this storm.

The Parallel.

Many such storms as this happened in the time of King John, but one above all the rest was very remarkable wherein it hailed stones as big as Goose-eggs, Baker. Chron. p. 82.

Baker. Chron. of
the reign of
King John p. 80.

What sad miseries did hereupon ensue to the whole Kingdom all our Authentick stories do sufficiently testifie how were the people, yea the very Lords themselves harassed by cruel oppressions and illegal exactions, but above all it is unspeakable what the whole Nation suffered by continual broyles and divisions, both while Prince Arthur King Johns Nephew lived, who was his Competitor for the Crown, and also after his death from the French King and others; In somuch that a good Historian sayes that the Kingdom was made the Stage of all miseries of rapine and cruelty; Two Armies in it on foot at once, each of them seeking to prey upon the other, and both of them upon the Countrey: Many other Parallels we could instance in, but that we are careful not to swell this Narrative to too great a bulk; Only take these two short instances, the one in the year 1496. at which time there were hailstones 18 inches about, and not long after followed a great Plague especially in London, Baker. p. 268. The other is that in the last year of Queen Marias Reign, Anno. 1558. Hail-stones were taken up which being measured were 15 inches about, Baker Chron. p. 346.

IV.

A dreadful
whirl-wind. Sep.
3. 1660. in Leis-
cester shire.

UPON the third of September, 1660. in Leicestershire near the Town of Worthington began a very dreadful Whirlwind, it turned an house on one side, tore up a great Tree by the roots, casting it 4. or 5. yards from the place where it grew, it rent off the great limbs of an Apple-tree, and threw down a house into the street; the Chappel is sorely shaken

shaken and the Chaunsel in danger of falling; Then it passed on with great force and noise to *Worthington* Hall where it overturned five baies of Barn building and a Gate-house, It blew down a stack of chimnies, It hurried a man into the Orchard, where with his Arm he caught hold of a tree, and so stayed himself; From hence it passed renting trees and turning some up by the roots to a house that stands alone, where it took away a load of thorns, few of which could ever be found after, it took out also the side of another house at a town called *Toung*, it overthrew a bay of Barn building, and rent a house where a woman with three children were miraculously preserved, to this house also it brought a great log of wood, none knows from whence, between *Worthington* and *Toung* it is conceived that this wind hath rent off, and turned up by the roots twenty loads of wood, it carried away likewise a Hive of Bees which could not since be heard of; this whirlwind ran about three miles in length, and the effects of it were not seen above twenty yards in breadth, some say that flames of fire were seen in it, This Relation comes from an honest discreet person, a spectator of the forementioned effects of this dreadful whirlwind.

Anno 1624. and May 8. The like to this happened in *Ratisbone* which tore up trees by the roots, and in a moment drave them to divers places, it threw down many houses in the City and Suburbs, &c. This Town afterwards was streightly besieged and several times assaulted by the Imperial and Ravian Army consisting of 45000. horse and foot, of whom at least 8000. were killed in the Siege; but the City at last was surrendered to them upon Honourable Conditions, See Cerm. Prod. p. 20.

Such a storm also happened within a mile of *Nottingham*, the 5 and the last year of *Queen Maries* Reign by which amongst other things the water and mud of the River *Trent* were taken up and carried a quarter of a mile and dashed against Trees, many of which were torn up by the roots and cast twelve score off, also a Childe was taken out of a mans band and carried two spears length high, and then let fall 200. feet off, and so died of the fall, Baker Chron. p. 346.

V.

Upon the 28. of *August*, 1660. were seen in *Beverly* Market-place, and in several other places in the said Town,

an innumerable
company of frogs
& toads reigned
out of air at
Hull August. 8
1660

Town, an innumerable company of little frogs and toads or both: The people knew not how they came there, they having never been before so infested with those kind of Creatures, but by circumstances they collected they might come out of the air, because they found severall of them upon their cloaths, which did hang on the hedges, many also did fall down to the ground from the tops of their houses, This is certified by a Merchant of Hull who was that day at Beverly market and saw these frogs, and helpt as himself relates to destroy many hundreds of them while he remained there.

The like to this happened in Alsatia, Anno 1349. Lycoft p. 604.

The Paralel.

In the same year Pope Paulus tertius died, and the next year after there were great stirs in Germany, the Emperour Charles the fifth was so persecuted and environed by those who rose up against him, that he very hardly escaped with his life by flight, Lycoft. p. 611.

VI.

An innumerable
company of Spiders
seen marching
up one of the
streets at Bury in
Suffolk, Sep. 6
1660

AT St. Edmunds Bury in Suffolk, Sept. 6. 1660, in the middle of the Broadstreet, there were got together an innumerable company of Spiders of a reddish colour, the spectators judged them to be as many as would have filled a Peck, These spiders marched together, & in a strange kinde of order from the place, where they were first discovered towards one Mr. Duncombs house a member of the late Parliament, and since Knighted; and as the people passed the streets, or came near the spiders to look upon so strange a sight, they would shun the people, and kept themselves together in a body till they came to the said Duncombs house, before whose door there are two great Posts, there they staid, and many of them got under the door into the house, but the greatest part of them climbing up the Posts spun a very great web presently from the one post to the other, and then wrapt themselves in it in two very great parcels that hung down near to the ground, which the servants of the house at last perceiving, got dry straw and laid it under them, and putting fire to it by a suddain flame consumed the greatest part of them, the number of those that remained were not at all considerable, All the use that the Gentleman made of this strange accident so far as we can learn, is only this, that the

he belives they were sent to his house by some Witches.

VII

THe same day were also seen a great swarm of flies flying over the said Town of *St. Edmunds Bury*, their multitude was so great that the Sky seemed to be darkened by them both these relations come from credible persons eye-witnesser, however the Truth of these things is notoriously known to the Generality of the Inhabitants in that Town.

A great swarm of flies seen flying over St. Edmunds Bury

VIII

IN the County of *Merrioneth* in *Northwales*, in a field or close which did belong to Colonel *John Jones* who was executed at *Charing-Cross*, Oct. 17. 1660 Was seen by a Tenant of his going forth into the said field that morning or very near the time, a Crab-tree covered all over with blossomes, he was so astonished at it that he could not believe it was so till he came near to the Tree and cut of a bough of it, which he carried home with him and shewed to his Family and divers of his Neighbours; severall other credible persons saw the Tree, and many Gentlemen that were near and heard of it, sent for boughs, which when they saw, they were convinced of the Truth of the report. This relation we received first by Letters from the aforesaid Tennant, and a further confirmation we have since had of it by some very credible persons Inhabitants there eye-witnesser, who coming up to *London* did here attest it *viva voce*.

A Crab tree covered with Blossoms in the Month of October 1660

IX

THe like also was seen on another Crabtree not far from the former which began to blossom on the said 17 of *October*, and the next day was full of ripe blossomes like the other, but within four or five dayes they all faded and withered away; The information of this particular, also we have by letters from the persons themselves who were Spectators.

another Crab tree begun to blossom at the same time.

IN the Month of *November* last, 1660 in some part of *Norfolk* were such multitudes of meadow-mice, that in many hundred Acres together, one could hardly set down his foot without treading on them, they did eat up the roots of

Muny meadow-mice which did eat up the greas in some parts of Norfolk

the grass, and in one Mr. Spelmans ground as himself confest they have spoiled him so much grass, as used to keep 130. fat Cattle, he feared also he should be damnified by them 300. l. in a field of Cole-seed.

The Paralell.

We finde that in the same month of Novemb. Anno. 1580. at Souh-
Minster. in Dansey hundred in Essex, there appeared an infinite number of
Mice which over-welmed the whole Earth in those Marches, and did there
and gnaw the grass to the roots, upon it followed a great murrein of Cattle
which afteras was fed in those grounds, Sow. Chron. p. 689.

The year following Queen Elizabeth was much disturbed with Jesuits
of which severall were executed.

XI

A great tempest
which caused the
Sea, it being a
Spring tide, to
break down ma-
ny strong banks
in Cheshire to
to the v. y great
detriment of the
Country.

IN Cheshire, upon the 8. of Novemb. last was a most Tempestu-
ous wind, and it being a Spring tide, all the low grounds
to Thornton Moore Arme were overflowed like a Sea; Great
prejudice was done to many peoples houses, some Barns and
Winmills were blown down, the sea was so out-ragious and
high that it broke down Cops at Jnce, that had stood as is
reported 100 years, it brake down also a new strong Cops
about green Warth which cost 3 or 400. l. makeing it break
down Infrente Dams. which kept the flood from the Mill,
and very much Corn in the mill was spoiled; The Sea also
flowed over Jnce at Eldon-Marsh, and did very great harm
in Frodsome-Marsh, many sheep and rabbits were drowned,
as also beyond Chester many Sheep with Mares and Colts
were drowned, very great harme was also done by Ship-
wrack at Sea, few or no Vessels in those parts escaped; But
that the Lord might make it eminently to appear that he
Commands the Winds and the Seas, that they must obey
him; It is credibly reported that in this great storme, two
Children the one of ten the other seven years of age, being
playing together in a Cock-boat in Ireland were driven to
Sea, and by the violence of the storm were brought to the
English coast, and were both found in the Cock-bote en-
folded in each others Arms being almost dead, but when
they were taken out of the Boat, such means were used that
it pleased the Lord both of them recovered again; This
whole relation we have by letters from very credible persons
in those parts who do assure us of the truth of every parti-
cular hereof.

In the year 1534. such an inundation happened in Poland, and the same year the King of Scandia died- and Henry the 8. King of England by act of The Parliament abolished the Popes Authority in this Nation, Lycostr. Pag. 555.

Also in the year 1568. Through the excessive swelling of the Sea, many places in Zealand, Holland; and almost all Frizland were overflowed with water. whereby besides the loss of many mens lives, the Country in other respects was exceedingly dammified, Clarks Prod. p. 491. About that time great troubles were in those parts, because of the cruell and bloody persecution of the Protestants in that Country by Duke de Alva, who for the tumultuous violence of some few in throwing down Images, &c. Did by death and imprisonments most unhumanely chastise all the rest of the party who were no wayes guilty of any crime, but such violent and unjust proceedings did quickly afterwards irritate the people to throw off the Yoke of the King of Spain, and there with the Idolatry and Superstition of Rome, whereby they rejoiced and so do to this day a very great freedom both in their civill and Religious capacities,

XII.

BY a letter from a very good hand from Magdalen Colledg in Oxford it is certified that about the 10 of Nov. last, 1660 a Spectrum appeared to one Allen of that Colledg, which according to his own Relation was as followeth, he heard in the night when he was in bed, a noise like the noise of geese. he arose from his bed and looked out of his Window which opened over the Bridg but saw nothing, but going to his bed again he saw a Man as it were grovelling upon the door, in his Pontificalibus, attired like a Bishop in his Lawen sleeves, &c.

The Devil in the likeness of a Bishop appeared to a Scholar in Magdalen Coll. Nov. 10. 1660.

At first he was not much affrighted. but called to it and abjured it to speak, the Bishop immediately rose up and approached towards his bed, at which the young man was exceedingly terrified, and crying out murder, murder, it vanished, he since sayes, that he saw and heard something which he will discover to none; upon the report of this strang apparition in the Colledg, the next night five or six scholars watched in that Chamber, and about midnight, on a sudden the candles went out, and immediately upon it was heard a great noise as of Children crying out, which so affrighted them, that they all ran out of the Chamber; This is a thing generally known and talk't of by the Students in that house; though as it is reported the subpresident did his uttermost to suppress the rumour of it, and by his means

hath so awed the Scholar, that except it be to some special confidants he dares not own this to any.

The Parallel.

An Apparition not unlike to this we find to be in the year 1402 in the Reign of Henry the 4. when the Devil appeared in the likeness of a Gray or White Fryer at Danebury in Essex, he came into the Church and extremely affrighted the people who were there assembled together, and great hurt was done to the Chancel and Steeple by him; For long after, several of these gray or white Fryers were hanged and beheaded for Treason, and many Priors with their Possessions were resumed and seized into the Kings hand, see Stow. Chron. p. 327.

XIII.

A violent storm with thunder and lightning, wherein several persons were killed.

UPON the 23 of November last, 1660. there happened in *Garnsey* a most violent storm with terrible Thunder and Lightning wherein several persons were killed, and much hurt done otherways; of this the Publick Intelligencer gives a full and true Account, unto whom we refer the Reader.

XIV.

A dreadful storm of wind in York shire.

UPON the 8 of December 1665 at night there happened, especially in *York-shire* and other parts Northerly, a very dreadful storm of winde, the like they say was never in any mans memory known before, very much hurt was done by the blowing down of chimneys and houses, but especially the Windmills and the ships went to wrack, it spared not the consecrated places, many Churches were forely shaken the great Cathedral at *York* was damaged by it as it was judged at least 1500*l.* neither did *Rippon*, nor *Beverly* Ministers escape free; The prejudice that the violence of this wind to several Towns is not to be valued. At the same time the Assurance Frigate designed for *Gwyny* was sunk in the *Thames* and about 30 men drowned in her, the effects of this Storm also reached beyond the Seas; The Publick Intelligencer observes that upon the same day the house of Peers voted the digging up of *Oliver Cromwells* bones; The same day also was as great a Tempest in *Ireland*, and very much mischief done, some Stacks of Corn

Corn on my Lord *Mazarines* ground, were so blown away and dispersed, that (as his Lordship related it) there was scarce a straw left upon a straw: some other great prejudices his Lordship with many other sustained in that Kingdome also,

At *Brillaw* in *Silesia* Anno 1625 there hapned a very great tempest which did very much mischief to the Churches, &c. At the same place afterwards there were many hot and sharp encounters between the Imperialists and the Swedes as you may read at large in the *Germane Prod.* p. 25, 26.

Also upon the 9 of April 1628 near *Hatford* in *Bark-shire*, there hapned a very terrible tempest, and the same Summer, viz. August 23 following, the Duke of *Buckingham* was stabbed by *Lt. John Felton*, *Stow. Chron.* p. 1044.

We in this Island must never forget that Prodigious and dreadful storm of wind on the 4th of Novemb. 1637. About 10 of the Clock at night, which the famous and learned *D^r Jackson* Chaplain to his late Majesty in his Appendix to his Sermons on *Luke 21. 25.* takes great notice of saying, that amongst all the forewarning signs given to this Land as so many Summons to Repentance, none which have been within my memory did make so durable impressions upon my heart and thoughts as that late mighty wind, &c. Read more in the aforesaid Appendix: we all too well Remember what followed hereupon both in respect of the troubles in *Scotland.* and the civill wars amongst our selves for so many years together.

XV.

A very great and terrible thunder and lightning hapned at *Oxford* Decemb. 18 which hath not been usuall in the winter season.

A great Thundering and Lightning in *Oxford* Dec. 18. 1660.

XVI

Upon the 24 of January last 1660 between six and seven of the Clock at night there was a very great Earthquake in most parts of *Leicester-shire*, and in some places in the adjacent Countries, it came at the first with a noise in the air like Thunder at a great distance, it shook the houses very much, and in some places men could hardly stand except the held by something, it continued about the space a quarter of an hour: this is a thing Publickly known in most parts of that County as also in *Rutland*, &c.

a great Earthquake in *Leicester-shire* Jan. 24. 1660.

There

The Parallel

There was a dreadful Earthquake on the 22 of October Anno 104. Not long after followed the most cruel and bloody persecution of the Christians under Trojan the Emperor Dion.

In the City of Lacedemon there happened also a very great Earthquake and not long after a certain people called Illoxæ which were their slaves rose up against them and put them to great distress, &c. Plutarch de vita Cimonis p. 503.

An Earthquake also happened in Constantinople Anno. 1509. After which ensued a great Plague whereby the City was for the most part unpeopled, Turk Hist. p. 476. And indeed according to the opinion of Philosophers the Pestilence in a natural way is the Common and ordinary effect of Earthquakes, se. Zanchi de operibus Dei. p. 375. and so Seneca Quæst. natural Cap. 27.

See many other
Portanta of the
Earthquakes in
Trismeg. Lib. 5.
p. 511. See Lycost
de Prodig. p. 468.

On the 6 of April, and on the first day of May 1580 and the 22 year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth there happened very great Earthquakes both in the City of London and several other places, in which years as we said before pag. The Pope sent aid to the Irish who were in Rebellion against the Queen, but they were all by the blessing of God utterly defeated and cut off, See Stow. p. 687, 688.

Anno 1381. In the time of Richard the 2 was a great Earthquake in many parts in this Nation, and what ensued thereupon you may read at large in Stow. Chron. p. 283, &c. See also Lycost. p. 468.

XVII.

Two Hogs come
in the Cathedral
at Canterbury.

UPON the 5 of November 1660 two great Hogs came two several and very strange unusual wayes up divers steps into the Cathedral of Canterbury, and went into the quire when the Prebends were in the midst of their Devotion, and there continued till they were driven out by the Vergers; The Generality of the Inhabitants of that City do very well remember that a little before the down-fall of the Hierarchy in the year 1641. The same thing happened in the same place, *Malum Omen.*

XVIII.

Wheat was
rained.
in Lincolnshire
about April 26.
1662.

ABOUT the 26 of April 1661 at Spalding and Bourne and several other places in Lincolnshire it rained Wheat, some grains of it were very thin and hollow, but others of a more condense substance, and would grinde into a fine flower, several Pecks of it were taken up out of Church leads, & out her houses that were leaded, several of the Inhabitants there who were eye-witnesses have brought up some of the grain to London, which some of us have seen, and as we are credibly informed a good quantity of it hath been presented to his Majesty by a person of honour.

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

47

We find that Anno 722 in a field in Italy, there fell a great quantity of Corn from Heaven in a shower of rain: After which time, and in the same year Charles the Emperour did subdue the Saxons: And severall of the Bishops were by the same Emperour for their pride and insalencies thrown out of their Bishopricks, *Lycost. p. 328.* The Parallel.

The like also happened Anno 828. In which year Ludovicus the Emperour transported an Army into Africa, and in a pitched field did totally vanquish and overcome the Africans, *Lycost. p. 347, 348.*

About the year 1641 it rained a kind of grain in several parts of England which was like a withered wheat corn, but not so long, with a skin of dark colour, which being pulled off, the grain had a taste somewhat sharp and hot: Mr. Baxter assures us that he tasted some of it himself and kept some of it long, which fell on the lead, of the Ministers house in Bridge North, where Mr. Baxter then preached the Gospel, See Baxters Saints Rest. 8 Edition. p. 227.

XIX.

IN the same Month of April 1660 about Chesterfield in Derbyshire it rained white ashes, which fell in such quantities that several fields did look very white as if Snow had covered them: a person of very good credit, who hath lately been in those parts received this account from severall of the Spectators. The raining of ashes near Chesterfield in Derbyshire.

The like was seen at Constantinople, Anno 653. which did much terrifie the people, & immediately there followed a great mortality by reason of the Pestilence which raged exceedingly in that City for many months after, *Lycost. p. 322.* The Parallel.

The same thing also happened near the same Place, Anno 744 being the year wherein Constantine took Constantinople by force, *Lycost. pag. 329.*

XX.

UPON the 21 of May, 1661 (the day before the Covenant was burned, there fell so much rain in Lond. by reason of a sudden shower which lasted not much more then half an hour) that most of the Streets were like Rivers, inso-much that great Casks &c. did swim down the streets: and in Coleman street the water was so high that a great dog could not passe the way but by swimming, whereof several Inhabitants there did take special notice: Near Smithfield also the water ran with such violence that it bore down severall Hog-sties in the Castle-Inn-yard, and carried the hogs down the common-shore to the middle of Chick lane which is near 20 Rood, many thousand pounds as some Judicious Citizens have affirmed will not make good the damage which Merchants, Vintners, Victuallers, and other A very fierce and suddain shower of rain in Lond. May 21 1661.

other Tradesmen have sustained by that hasty and violent showre.

The Paralell.

The like storm of suddain rain happened in London the second year of King James, Anno. 1604. as you may read at large in Stow. Chron. p. 844.

Also on the last of Septemb. 1558. and the fifth and last year of Queen Mary there was so great a shower that several boats were rowed from Westminster-Bridge into King-street, Bakers Chron. p. 347.

This like flood of waters to the space of half an hour the Clouds poured down upon Kuttenberge in Bohemia, Anno. 1623 in the time of the bloody persecution which the Protestants did undergo there, See Bohem. Hist. p. 355.

XXI

Great rain for many weeks together 1660.

WE must not passe by without observation the great and unusual rains that have fallen this Spring; The oldest man living can hardly remember the like, there being scarce a day or else a night for many weeks together wherein the Heavens did not pour down very great showers upon the Earth, the prejudices whereof we may justly fear (if the Lord in much mercy prevent not) the whole Nation will feel before this year be expired.

The Paralell

These great rains are by our Historians numbred amongst the Casualties that happened in the time of that most unhappy King Henry the 6. The troublesomeness of whose Reign is sufficiently known to all that have been but ordinary perfect in our English Chronicles and Histories.

Also in the year 1594. and the 36 of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, it Rained from May till about the latter end of July almost every day or night, and after it followed (though a reasonable good harvest) yet a great dearth of Corn and all manner of provisions, See Stow. p. 769.

XXII

a woman delivered of a Monster in Scotland

BY divers letters from Scotland we are certified that a woman lately in that Nation brought forth a strange and dreadful Monster the description whereof take as followeth, being an extract of one of those letters which was sent from a known credible person in Scotland to a friend a near relation of his not far from London.

"In the County of Buchanan in our Island, there was a Woman brought to bed of a certain Creature, which before it came forth was heard to squeak, & cry in the Womb, and as it was coming out, it did squeak so terribly that every one run away affrighted, At last the Minister with several others came in, & there was born a Creature all hairy, beneath the girdle like a man Child, & above the shoulders two heads, one upon the top of the other, the upper like the

“ the face of a Lion, and did immediately run up & down
 “ the house, crying three times woe, woe, woe, to the world;
 “ The Father of this monster knock it on the head, this is a
 “ certain truth,

XXIII

WE have from very good hands assured of a very strang
 providence of God that lately happened at *Wincanton*
 in the County of *Somerset* on the 29 of May 1661. the
 Relation whereof as it was received from honest & faithful
 persons eye--witnesses take as followeth.

Upon the said 29 of May (being his Majesties birth day,
 and appointed as a day of thanksgiving for his Majesties Re-
 storation to the exercise of his regal power over these Nati-
 ons;) Mr. *Sacheveril* the Minister of the Town of *Wincanton*
 aforesaid did in the Celebrating the memorial of that day
 or on the Lords day foregoing, preach to the people from
 that portion of Scripture, 1 Sam. 12. 25. *But if ye shall do*
wickedly, ye shall be consumed both ye and your King: From
 which words he raised very clearly this observation, *viz*
That wicked and prophane men are the worst Subjects, which he
 demonstrated and confirmed by severall arguments, and
 in his application did endeavour to convince that part
 of his Authority which his Text was most appli-
 cable of the inconsistency of their present course of
 Prophaneness, Drunkenness, Whoredome, Scoffing at
 Religion, Swearing, Blaspheming, &c. With that
 which is Loyalty indeed & wherewith any Prince can be ei-
 ther advantaged or honoured; The rude debauched multi-
 tude of the Town (who judged themselves the best Subjects
 because most obnoxious to the preachers reproofs) were ex-
 tremely scandalized and enraged at this Doctrine, and re-
 solved to be avenged on the Minister for so open detecting
 their disloyalty to their Sovereign, to which purpose they
 prepare an effigies made of straw and clothed it in black;
 which might represent Mr. *Sacheveril* and put into his hand,
 the Catechism compiled by the late reverend Assembly of
 Divines, and with a horse or horses drew it through the
 Town upon a Sled, and at several honest sober mens doors

as they passed along they made a stand, demanding of it whether it would read the common-prayer or no: to which some were appointed still to make answer in the negative, whereupon they drew it away to the place where they had set in order above an hundred fagots of furses & other such like combustible matter in the midst of which pile they place the aforesaid effigy upon a short pole, and then kindled their Bonfire; and though the effigy was in the midst of a very quick and fierce flame which ascended above it, yet the fire had no power at all over it, but it remained after a good part of the materials were consumed altogether untouched, at which the multitude was so enraged that one of them discharged a Gun at it, which as he shot it off, brake in pieces and hurt himself with some others that stood near him, Then another of the company struck at it with a banger which also by the force of the blow brake in two, then they took it down and held it in the fire, and the winds blew the flame from it, so that they could not make it burn, then they held it in the fire on the contrary side, and the winds immediately turned & kept the flame again from seizing upon it; After all they were forced to pull it to pieces, & so by piece-meal at last consumed it in the fire; This relation with the several circumstances of it, as we have here inferred them will be attested by divers inhabitants in the said Town of *Wincanton*, and the truth of the story is so notoriously known there, that the actors themselves have not the face to deny it or any part of it. & we cannot but hope that it hath left some conviction upon them, seeing the Lord by this strang and miraculous providence hath so publicly & manifestly disowned and rebuked their barbarous & inhumane usage (and that only for telling them the truth) of their faithfull Minister in their attempts (though in vain) against that man of Straw which they made to represent him. And let it also be an encouragement to him, and all the rest of the Lords faithfull Messengers in this day of great Apostacy to hold fast the truth, and to cleave to that God who stilleth the noise of the Seas, the noise of their waves and the tumult of the people.

Some
H

Prodigies seen in the Heavens.

*Some remarkable Apparitions and Prodiges that have hap-
ned in the Waters together with strange and unusual double
Tides from May 1660. to the 14 of Feb. 1660.*

I.

Letters from a very credible person out of York-shire to
one of quality in London do certify us, that at Crayen
in York-shire was seen 6: Coach-horses drawing a Coach,
first down and then up the river with a great fierceness.

The lowest of 3.
Springs dried up

II.

Within a mile of Fetcham in the way to Learher-head
in Surrey were three Springs, the lower of which used
to run very strongly, but since the latter end of Octob. 1660
for about four months it would not run at all, though the
two uppermost Springs (which according to an ordinary
custome in nature should first have failed) have continued all
this while running. Some of the inhabitants near the place
take great notice of it, because it nerein their remembrance
happned so before, except once which was in the year 1648.
and much about the same time of the year.

A great Well
dried up near
Chrick Town.

III.

About the beginning of Winter last, a very great Well by
Chrick Town, four miles from Osweldstrey in Denbigh-
shire was also dried up, which the inhabitants there can
remember at any time heretofore happned, except a little be-
fore the last great plague.

IV

Two small
streams broke
forth

It is very certain that this year both at Craden in the coun-
ty of Surrey, as also at a place called Fairemile near Hen-
ly upon Thames in the County of Oxford, a smal stream of
water hath broken out, which the adjacent Inhabitants of
both places do take notice of, with very great fear and con-
firmation of Spirit, because when the like hath happened
heretofore, either Pestilence, Famine, or some dreadfull
chance and revolution have always ensued.

H 2

V.

A double Tide
at London-Bridge,
Novemb. 2. 1660.

IV.

Upon the second of November last, being the day where-
in her Majesty the Queen Mother came to White Hall,
there was a strange double Tide observed at London Bridge;
the account whereof take as followeth: Whereas by the
usual course of the River it should have ebbed till four of the
Clock in the morning, and then should have flowed till
eight or nine, but this morning, viz. November the second,
it was flood from one of the clock till four, and then eb-
bed about two hours time a yard and a half, and then
which was about six of the clock it was flood again till
ten in the forenoon and then ebbed again.

V.

Another strange
tide whereby
1000. sheep
were drowned
near Gravesend.

T Here was likewise November 16. when there was no
winde stirring, another very strange Tide at London-
bridge, it should have ebbed that morning till four or five
of the clock, and it was flood and flowed till four, and
ebbed, about an hour or somewhat more, where common-
ly the ebbing is seven hours below Bridge; After that the
water seemed to stand still, and run no way for an hour
together, and the Ships did ride as if they had been in
standing water, then it began to flow again, and though
this happened but two dayes after the Moon entered into
her last quarter, at which time the Tides are alwaies low-
est, yet it was as high as any Spring Tide whatsoever, it
was observed to rise five foot at least higher then the
Tide immediately foregoing, and it rose so high and that
so suddenly and unexpectedly, that near Gravesend above
1000. sheep were drowned; This flood continued for a-
bout 3 hours and then ebbed again.

The P. vellel.

In the 17 year of Queen Elizabeth, there happened at London-Bridge
a double Tide somewhat like these which we have mentioned in the second
foregoing particulars, Baker Ch on p. 42. In the same year died M. the w
Parker the Arch Bishop of Cantebury, as also not long after VValter De-
voureux E. rle of Essex, and Earl Marshall of Ireland fell sick of a Lark and
presently died Stow. p. 679. 681.

Such a Tide likewise happened in the year 1660. and not long after a
peace was concluded betwixt the King of Spain and the States General of
the united Provinces, Stow p. 893.

We

we find likewise that a little before the late King Charles (then Prince of Wales) began his voyage towards Spain, Anno. 1622. The Thames shifted four Tides within the space of five hours Stow p. 1035.

VII.

Upon the same day also, it is most certain that there was a very strange Tide at Hull, after it was fall'n water, and according to its course should have bin half ebb, it was flood again, and higher by a foot then at the time of high water. This comes from an honest discreet Merchant that lives there who was an eye-witness.

VIII.

Upon the 20 of November 1660 the River Derwent was at Derby, and five miles above and five miles below that Town, for three or four hours together totally dried up, so that no water during that time came to any of the Mills upon the River, the boats were all on ground, and the fishes left upon the sand, so that the Children took them up in their hands, and in several places the people went over the Channel with their shoes dry shod. This is the more remarkable because this River Derwent is an inland River, and useth not at any time to ebb and flow, and it is also at Derby above 100 foot broad and seven or eight foot deep at least, and besides it is likewise an extraordinary quick fierce stream; Therefore the hand of the Lord is the more eminently seen in cutting off the waters thereof for so many miles together, and for so considerable a space of time.

A strange Tide at Hull.

The River Derwent near Derby dried up, November 20. 1660.

Canden sayes of this River that it carries a full and lofty stream, Brit. p. 554

The Parallel.

Anno 1390 and the last year of King Richard the 2. his Reign, the River Ouse near Bedford stood still, and by reason that the waters gave back on both sides men might pass on foot within the very Channel for 3 miles together, not without wondering of all that saw it, Cambd. Brit. p. 399.

What some did adjudge this to signify you may see Baker Chron. p. 167. It was conceived also that it did portend the civil broyles between the Houses of York and Lancaster which happened not long after. and wherein England for a long time was rent in pieces, Cambd. ibid.

Also in the year 1443. and the 22. of the Reign of Henry the 6. The same River Ouse on new years day stood suddenly still, and divided it self. What the thoughts of many then were of the signification of that wonder, and what not long after it did ensue, the judicious Reader may find at large in Baker Chron. p. 213.

IX.

IX

The water so low at London-bridge that with a Pole one might have leapt over the Channel.

The Parallel

Wheress upon the 16. of Decem. 1660 it should have been full Sea at London-bridge, according to the usual course of the Tides at ten of the Clock in the morning and twelve minutes after; at the same time hour the Thames was so low that some walked on the sands into the midst of the River, and at six of the clock the same night, it was so dry to the very narrow Channel that one with the help of a Pole might have leapt over it, as some discreet persons eye-witnesses do affirm.

In the year of 1550 when the Persecution began to wax hot in Scotland against the Professors of the Truth, amongst many Prodigious signs, which were then observed, this was one, that some great Rivers in the midst of Winter were dried up, Sporteshood, Hist. of the Church of Scotland.

Also in the year 1592 the River of Thames was so low, that some did ride over it on both sides of London-Bridge, and shortly after the Pestilence brake forth with great violence, and swept away many families in Lond. Stow. p. 765, 766.

another strange tide at London-bridge, Feb. 1. 1660

Anno 1632 a little before the King of Sweden was slain at that fatal battle of Lutzen, a River of no small account in Sweden lost its water, insomuch that for a whole day a man might go through it with a dry foot, Germ. Prod. p. 48.

X

Upon the 14 day of Feb. 1660 there was likewise another very strange Tide at London-Bridge, for after a whole houre ebb at the least the flood cam in again, flowing for an hour and half, and then for about the same space of time the water seemed to stand still, and then it ebbed again.

Strange and unusual accidents, together with some remarkable Judgements befalling divers persons in this Nation, from June 1660 to the 23. of April. 1661.

I.

Mr. White Minister of Ruffham in Suffolk, was struck dead while he was reading the Service book.

One Mr. White Minister of Ruffham in Suffolk, a man of Parts and one that did pretend very much zeal for the Reformation of Religion in the Presbyterian way, upon the late change did write in vindication of Episcopacy, &c. Or

Or gave some such like Testimony of his receding from his former Principles, and was one of the first Ministers in those parts that attempted to read the Service-book: But it pleased the Lord to give him a very sharp rebuke, for upon his first attempt he was smitten and fainted away while he was in the Reading-place, but coming presently to himself again, he proceeded to read on, and was smitten in the like manner the second time, and so carried out of the Church for dead, though afterwards by the use of means his life returned to him again; but whether he hath since recovered his perfect health again or no we have not heard.

II

UPon the 3 of June 1660 being the Lords day, at Brokington in Glostershire, there was a Religious meeting of many godly Christians from several Towns in those parts. The place of Scripture which the Preacher did that day treat upon was Jude 14, ver. 15. *And Enoch also the seventh from Adam, Prophesied on these, saying, Behold the Lord cometh with Thousands of his Saints to execute judgement upon all, and to convince all that were ungodly amongst them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.* And while he was expounding and applying that Scripture, the Clark of the Town his Daughter (who was publickly noted to be a prophane & malicious scoffer and reviler of all that desired to walk strictly as becometh the Gospall, and more particularly of these who were assembled as aforesaid, and (according to credible information) she was active in procuring some of the County Troop to come and disturb them in their meeting that day) with her mother came in among them to scoff as at other times, but more especially to see these poor honest men routed and pulled out of their meeting-place by the Souldiers, who by this time for that purpose were even at the door. But a most remarkable and righteous hand of the Great and terrible God did after a most dreadful manner prevent her therein, for (having continued but a very little while) she gave a great and very sudden screech and fell down dead before them all: her Mother

ther with divers that were near her, used all the means they could to restore her life, but all proved ineffectual; This judgment of God hath been generally taken notice of in those parts, as a thing publickly known to be true, and the effects of it hath been considerable in many persons there.

III.

One offended
with an honest
Minister for
speaking the
Common-Pray-
book as he con-
ceived, prosecu-
tured the Mini-
ster with great
violence, but
the Lord put a
stop to it by ta-
king away the
prosecutor by
sudden death

ONE Mr. *Owd* formerly a Major in the late Kings Army, being present one Lords day, about the beginning of September 1660, at *Anwick* Church in Northumberland, where one Mr. *Rowell* is Minister, and hearing him that morning preach something as he conceived against the Common Prayer Book, expressed great discontent at it, and in the afternoon caused the Church doors to be shut up, so that Mr. *Rowell* was constrained to Preach to the People in the Church-yard: he also threatned that the Minister should forthwith be turned out of his living: In order whereunto he not long after repaired to the Assizes at New-Castle, and there indicted the said Mr. *Rowell* for speaking disgracefully of the Common-Prayer Book, but by the interposition of some friends of the Ministers he was wholly prevented of effecting his design for that time: but being in pain to be delivered of the mischiefe he intended this good man, he attempts the Judges at *Durham* Assizes also, and there his success was better then at *Newcastle*, for he procures something wherewith he purposes severely to scourge Mr. *Rowell*: but now the Lord immediately from Heaven pleads the cause of his faithful innocent Servant, & makes his Prosecutor a sad and publick example of his displeasure; for as he was returning from *Durham* to *Anwick* 24 of Sept. 1660. And going over a shallow water not a foot deep he fell suddenly from his horse, some that were near and saw him fall, made all possible hast to him, who when they came to help him up (as they themselves relate) found him dead and very cold, they used what means they could to recover him, but in vain; When the Jury viewed his body, they gave in their verdict that he was dead before he

fell from his horse, for they could find no hurt at all about him which they could judge was occasioned by his fall that might bring him to his end; This is a thing too notoriously known in those parts to be questioned.

The Under-Marshall in Calice who was a great informer against, The Parallel, and a great Prosecutor of good people, there did suddenly fall down dead and never spake word more says Mr Fox in his Acts & Monum.

IIII.

Out of Leicestershire it is certified from unquestionable hands, that a Gentleman of good quality and Estate, an Inhabitant in a Parish in that County did very much urge the Minister of the Place to read the Service-Book; when he saw he could not by his importunity prevail with him to do it, out of his extraordinary zeal to propagate that way of Devotion, upon a Lords day following did himself read it in the Church to the people, the Minister being a man of a peaceable Spirit did no wayes interrupt him in it, he declared his purpose to do the like again another Lords day following; but on that morning before Church-time, as he was in his Parlour writing a Letter, which according to vulgar report somewhat concerned that businesse of the Common-Prayer-Book, he was struck with a dead Palsie on one side, which immediately gangrened, so that he became a most loathsome creature, and so stunk that none was able to come near him, in which sad condition he continued roaring and crying out because of his pain, for about three weeks time, and then expired.

V.

At the request of an Inhabitant in a Town near Bilricq in Essex, a certain conformable Minister that lived not far from thence came over and Baptized his Child, wherein he not onely made use of the Sign of the Crosse, but withall told the people that it was useful to defend from all evil; at the Christning-Feast it seems the Minister (who according to the Apostles rule should have been no Wine-bibber, but an example of Temperance and Sobriety to the rest of the people,) meeting perhaps with that Wine which the French call *Vinum Tkrologicum*, which is indeed the best Wine, did at that time drink to excess, however he would adventure to ride home that night, and going through Belrica he could not passe by the Tavern *insalutatam*, but there he calls for a Pint of Wine; the Tintner having at that time more discretion

One angry with an honest Minister for not reading the Common-Prayer under-took to do it himself one Lords day and intending to do it again the next Lords day, was taken that morning with a dead Palsie, & so hindred of his purpose.

A Minister Baptizing a Child with the sign of the Crosse, and at the same time drinking to excess, as he rode home that night was kil'd by a fall from his horse.

Strange Accidents and Judgements

than the Parson, and observing what case he was in, refused to let him have any more Wine, telling him he had drunk too much already, at which the Minister was so enraged, that he immediately took his horse, and as well as he could rode away in a very great chafe towards his Habitation; but as he was going the Vintner being much affected with his Condition, and fearing lest some disaster might befall him in his way, because he saw he was not well able to sit his Horse, did very kindly offer him a Servant of his to wait upon him home, which he with great scorn and indignation refused; however the Vintner commanded one privately to follow him, who after he was gone a little way from *Bil-rice*, seeing him fall from his horse, ran immediately to help him up; But the Parson was exceeding angry with him for following him, and charged him to return home again, and gave him twelve pence to do so, and then he getting up on horseback again, and having rid but a very little way further, falls down again, & the man that followed him went with all the speed he could make to help him, but when he came to him he found him stark dead; The truth of this is notoriously and publickely known in those parts.

The Parallel.

One reading the Common-Prayer, as it is feared against his light, was stricken sick and died.

How many examples like to this have been known heretofore, and amongst them also some drunken superstitious Priests, you may see at large, Clarks Exam. p. 146. & also Divine Traged. p. 19.

VI.

MAfter Bartholomew the late Minister of *Camden* in *Glocestershire*, who was sometime a zealous stickler for Presbyterian Reformation, and did exceedingly oppose and Preach against the Common-Prayer-Book, was yet prevailed with to read some part of it, as it is feared much against his Light and Principles; But the very first Lords day that he read it, he was stricken with sickness and died before the next morning.

The Parallel.

* A forward man in prosecuting Mr. Mayo for not reading the Common-prayer-book, found drowned in the River of *Thames*.

The like Judgement happened to one Cox, who was a zealous assertor of the Truth in King Edward 6: his time; But when Queen Mary came to the Crown, he embraced the Religion which was then in fashion, and afforded best preferments; it pleased the Lord that he going at night well to bed, died before the morning; see Beard Theatre, &c. p. 42.

One Dau. Balil. Professor of Divinity at Prague in Bohemia, a noted Apostate, was surprized also with sudden death, *Belle-Hist. p. 358.*

VII.

One Thomas Battler of Kingston upon *Thames* in *Surrey*, who was a bitter enemy to Mr. Mayo the Godly able Minister of

of that Town, and was most principally active of any other in preferring a Bill of Indictment against him for not reading the Common-prayer-book, was seen on the 17. of October 1660. (which was about a fortnight after the preferring the said Indictment) to come drunk out of an Alehouse or Tavern in Kingston, and for four dayes after he could not be heard of any where, till at the four dayes end he was found drowned in the River of Thames.

It is observable that one Wright an Inhabitant of this same Town of Kingston, a notorious scoffer at Religion, and a violent persecutor of the reverend Minister of the said Town, the immediate predecessor of the present Incumbent (though he was not drowned) yet was suddenly struck with a dead Palsie, and lay in a most miserable condition for a short time and then died; see Divine Traged. p. 22.

The Parallel.

VIII.

MAfter Woodward Minister of Dursly in Gloucestershire, being very desirous to preserve the Ordinances of Christ from pollution and defilement, did in the former times keep back from the Lords Supper some notorious scandalous impenitent persons in his Parish, who upon the late re entry of the Bishops, did begin to take courage and come to the Minister, demanding of him to read the Common-prayer-book, and to admit them to the Sacrament; Upon his refusal to gratifie their importunity in either of them, they went away very much dissatisfied and enraged, and entered into a Combination the next Sacrament day to press in upon him, when he was administering the ordinance, and if he refused to admit them, that then they would do him some mischief; but it pleased the Lord before that day came, to take away six of those persons by death one after another, & a seventh being struck sick immediately told his wife he should die, though there was then outwardly but very little sign of so sudden a change, but he taking his bed with the conceit of it, intreated his wife to send for Mr. Woodward the Minister to come to him, telling her still he was sure he should die of that sickness; according to his desire his wife sent for Mr. Woodward, unto whom when he came to him he did freely unboosome himself, and told him the whole story of the Combination above mentioned, and begged his pardon, together with his prayers to the Lord for him, withall telling him that he knew he should die as the rest of his companions had done before him, and intreated Mr. Woodward to Preach at his Funeral, and then declare unto the people what he had now discovered to him, which accordingly he did.

Several men urge a Minister to read Common-prayer & give them the Sacrament, for not doing of which they combine together to doe him some mischief wherein they were prevented by the suddain cutting off of 7 of them by the stroke of death.

A Gentlewoman speaking against the Phanaticks, was struck speechless and afterwards died.

IT is certified from very good hands concerning one Mr. Townsends Daughter of the City of Worcester, that being present at a Bonfire in Worcester, the evening of that day (according to our best Information) when his Majesty was proclaimed, that she drunk healths, and most violently railed against, and bitterly cursed the Phanaticks; it pleased the Lord that the same night her speech was suddenly taken from her, and her tongue very much swelled in her mouth, and within four days after or thereabouts she died; her Father sent to Mr. More an eminent Minister in that City, desiring him to bury her with the Book of Common-prayer, upon his refusal he got one Horrit who lived not far from thence, a man of a very ill fame to do it, and when he should have read, his eye-sight was utterly taken away from him, he tryed several Books but could read in none of them, the people waited near a quarter of an hour, till at last another Parson was by the friends of the deceased requested to do that office for them, who (though as it is thought not canonically qualified for the service) in such an exigency did undertake it, but performed it so confusedly that all present were exceedingly astonished at it! This is a truth attested by several Citizens of note and credit in Worcester, and indeed too notorious to be contradicted by any.

Several Non-conformists committed to prison, those who were their violent Prosecutors stricken with sickness and died.

ABOUT twenty sober Religious people being met together near Carmarthen to Worship God, were taken and carried to that Town, as they went through the Streets they were much abused by railing speeches; and some that were more rude and barbarous threw stones at them as they peaceably passed along, in which actions there was one Mrs. Simmons that was observed to be more forward than all the rest, one Mr. Bird also Tertullus-like, did most vehemently accuse and implead these poor Christians, it was so remarkable that the Justice himself according to the duty of his place, did publicly check him for being so busie and violent in that wherein he was not at all concerned; The Mayor also of the Town was exceeding cruel to them, committing them to the Dungeon for some space of time, they continued about five weeks in Prison, during which time or a few days more, the Mayor and his wife, the aforesaid Mr. Bird, and Mrs. Simmons were by the hand of the Lord smitten with sickness and died, to the great admiration both of Town and Country!

We read that in the time of the seventh Persecution under Decius the Emperour, when Secundianus and others suffered for the Testimony of Christ, that those that were most forward and cruel in promoting that bloody work, were cut off by sudden death. Clark Marty. P. 53.

XI.

After Symmes the Minister of *Wimbleton* in the County of *Surrey*, being by the violence of one of the Church-wardens hindered from preaching in the publick place, did preach at his own dwelling house to as many as were free to come thither to hear him; It was very much observed that one *Nathaniel Pace*, an Inhabitant of that Town of *Wimbleton*, did most bitterly rail against Mr. Symmes and the meeting, and was heard often with very great rage and violence to curse them, and to breath out threatening words against them, but this he did more especially on one Lords day, which was *October* the 7. 1660. And it pleased the Righteous and just God, that on the very next day when the said *Nathaniel Pace* was upon the Heath cutting Furfes, he was struck with a double Palsie (as it was conceived) but he presently begun to recover and grow better for a few hours, so that he was able to return to his work, but after he had a while continued so, he grew very ill again, and then fell down as dead among the Furfes, he was not found till 2 of the Clock at night, and then was carried home where he came to life again, but lay raving, cursing, and swearing till he died, which was within very few days after.

Thus it happened to a violent Hater and Persecutor of a godly Minister in Hungary, God struck him with sickness and soon after he ravingly died. Fox, Acts and Monum.

XII.

BY a Letter from an unquestionable hand in *Yarmouth* bearing date *January* 28. 1660. We are assured that the Clark of the Peace for the County of *Norfolk*, did most maliciously prosecute one Captain *Salter* for giving a Book (which contained a Narrative of the several executions of those ten men who suffered in *October* last) to a Gentleman, a friend of his in that County, Captain *Salter* was bound over to the Sessions, and the Clark of the Peace writes a Letter to one of the Justices who lived near to the Gentleman, to whom Captain *Salter* gave the aforesaid Books, that he should binde him over to appeare at the Sessions to Testifie against the said Captain *Salter*, when he had finished this Letter, on the back-side of it, he writes down several

questions

One who did rayl at, and curse a faithfull Minister and other good people was soon after stricken with a dead palsie, and lay cursing and swearing till he died.

One who maliciously prosecuted an honest man for delivering some Books to his Friend while he was writing to a Justice of Peace about it, was struck dead before he could send his letter away

questions which he desired the Justice to propound to the said Gentleman when he should appear before him, viz. what Conventicles had been lately kept at his house, and who the persons that met there; & what miracles Captain Salter did deliver to any person to his knowledge, when he had done this, before he could come out of his study to send away his Letter, he fell down dead and never came to life again; one coming in to him found this letter just finished, and seeing the contents of it, sent for the Gentleman whom it concerned, and shewed it him, who took a Copy of it, by which means we come to know the certain Truth of it.

The Parallel.

In the year 1510. one Augustine a Lawyer, a great stickler against, and a malicious persecutor of the Nonconformists in Bohemia (called then the BROTHERS) was stricken from Heaven with the stroke of sudden death, while he was in his house sitting at supper. Bohem. Hist. p. 75.

Also Dr. Duning Chancellour in the same County of Norfolk, a bloody persecutor in Queen Maries daies, was suddenly taken sitting in his Chair and died. Fox Acts and Monu. &c.

XIII.

Two men who violently prosecuted an honest Minister smitten dead before they came to testify against him.

There was a malicious person in Salisbury whose name was Payne, a Brewer, who did inform some of the Justices against Mr. Troughton a Godly Minister in that City, the 27 of November, 1660. was the day appointed for the Justices to come over to Salisbury to hear this Information, and examine some witnesses upon it; But it pleased the Lord that the aforesaid Payne (who was to be chief witness against this good man, and had made a vow not to Brew any more Ale till he had driven him out of the City) died within a very few hours before the time appointed for hearing the business, so that the Justices were constrained for want of Testimony to return from Salisbury *re infecta*.

Much about the same time another also of the said City whose name was Hater, a violent and malicious Prosecutor of the said Mr. Troughton, was suddenly taken away by death; of the hand of God against those two men, great observation hath been taken, both of the generality of the Citizens and some of the Justices.

The Parallel.

Mr. Richard Sedgwick an eminent gracious man, and an able preacher of the Gospel for many years together at Wapping, was in his younger daies called to be the Minister to the Merchant-Adventurers Company at Hamborough, amongst whom he did very much good, being Instrumental in drawing many souls to Jesus Christ, at which

which the Devil was very much enraged, and stirred up an eminent Merchant of the Company against him, because of his impartial dealing in his Ministry, and the order in the Church, (the only crimes wherewith Mr. Troughton above mentioned was charged by his Adversaries) who threatened that by such a day, and named it, he should be sent away for England, and dismissed his employments; but before that day came, the Merchant himself was summoned by death to another place. Clarks Marty. p. 397.

XIV.

UPon the first day of the Assizes, being March the 4: 1660. at Kingston, it pleased the Lord to strike with sudden death as he was drinking a Glasse of Wine in the Castle Tavern there, the Under-Shriff of that County, a notorious hater and persecutor of Nonconformists, and a most violent stickler for the Common-Prayer-Book, and it is well known that at the time of his death, he was maliciously prosecuting something of that nature, against some honest peaceable people in that County.

One Mornay a French man immediately after he had been instrumental to bring a godly Protestant to the Stake, was by sudden death taken out of the world. Acts and Monuments.

A violent Prosecutor of good men, struck dead suddenly at Kingston.

The Parallel.

XV.

AT Ilminster in Somersetshire, a woman who very much hated a godly able Minister that was newly turned out of his Living, there as she was bringing home fire which she had fetched from a Neighbours house, wished that it were burning in the said Ministers belly; the same day as it is reported there was acted in the Town a Play in derision (as some do affirm) of that which they call the Rump-Parliament; This woman made great hast to dispatch her business that she might be at leisure to attend the Divertisement of so good an exercise as that Play was, and it seems in her hast did leave her fire (kindled by that which a little before she wished in the Ministers belly) very carelessly, insomuch that her own house with about twenty six houses more, upon or near the Market-place were before night burnt down to the ground.

A woman was envious against a godly Minister, wishing her fire in his belly, which fire burned her own house and many others before night.

One that went to a place not far from his own house, in order to the promoting of a malicious design against some Nonconformists or his Neighbourhood in his return fell down dead from his horse.

XVI.

A Certain person whose name was Mason, an Inhabitant of Montgomery in Wales, went one day from the said Town to a Farm, not far distant, in pursuit of a cruel and malicious design against some Nonconformists in those parts, in his return home between the Farm and the Town he fell from his horse and lay for dead, his horse coming home without him, and

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search being made for him, at last he was found and brought to a Neighbours house neer the place where he fell, it was not long before by the use of means he came to life again, but like a distracted man he continued a few daies and died.

XVII.

A Lady who uttered very horrid blasphemous words was not long after taken away by death.

A Gentleman of good quality, and a very credible person, giving a visit to a great Lady not far from Charing-cross, was entertained by her with very bitter Invectives against the Parliament-party, from whom she had received in former times very great civilities, and towards whom during all those times she was exceeding moderate; But now, not like the same woman very much transported with passion against them; The Gentleman endeavoured to calm her spirit, and amongst other discourse told her it was not good for any to be too confident, for if we provoke God by our wickedness, he could easily as he had done this, so make another change in a moment if it pleased him; She replied in a very great passion, No it is impossible for God himself to make another change; A very little while after the same Gentleman seeing her husband in Westminster-hall in mourning, asked him the cause of his wearing that mourning habit, he replied to him, that his wife was lately deceased; And we would in charity hope that God before that change passed upon her selfe did convince her of the Truth of that Scripture, Psal. 135. v. 5, 6. *The Lord is great, and our Lord is above all Gods, whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did he in Heaven and in Earth, in the seas, and in all deep places.*

The Paralel.

One Libanitis of Antioch immediately after his speaking horrid blasphemous words died suddenly, &c. Clarks Examples, p. 46.

Also one Dennis Bennifield for uttering many blasphemous speeches was smitten by the Lord with sudden death as she was going between London and Hackney. Acts and Monuments.

One who thirsted after the blood of other men, suddenly sickned, and afterwards died, and blood issued out of him to admiration.

We could easily collect many more instances of the same kind, but we omit them to avoid prolixity.

XVIII.

One Mr. Russell an Apothecary in Bucklers-berry London, being in company with some persons of good quality and credit, amongst other discourse inveighed most bitterly against Phanaticks, and said that more of them must be hanged, &c. One of them replied to him, that he hoped that the blood which had

had been lately spilt at *Charing-crosse* and *Tyburn*, would satisfie him and the rest of his Friends, he answered no, we must have the blood of more of them yet, and so named divers persons who were formerly active for the Parliament, and if they might have the blood of those men he believed then they should be all satisfied, but not till then; It pleased God that this man went home and that night sickned and grew worse and worse, till at last he was desperately ill and full of Torment, and seemed to be extream restless in his Spirit, till at length within a week after he had spoken the aforesaid words, he was taken away by death, and immediately after his breath was out of his body, there issued from his Mouth, Nose, Ears, and Fundament very great and unusual quantities of blood, to the great admiration and astonishment of the beholders, who had not the least knowledge of the above-mentioned discourse, which so immediately preceded his death.

Charles the 9 King of France whose thirst Could never be quenched with the blood of the Protestants, by Gods iust judgment fell sick and with great effusion of blood out of many parts of his Body died miserably, Acts and Monuments.

The Paralel.

XIX.

AT *Horsney* in *Suffolk*, one *Gibbs* a very prophane scoffing man against Religion, did cause his Hogs-trough to be brought forth to a Bone-fire, which was then in the Town, and ordered the wood to be set round it, saying that this was the Phanaticks Pulpit, which he would now have burnt to ashes, and to made himself and the company very merry with that foolish and ridiculous conceit; It pleased the Lord that in a very short time after, this mans House and Barns were set on fire with Lightning from Heaven and all burnt down to the ground, since which time he is observed to be more silent, and forbears his Scoffing invectives against good men.

One at a Bone fire brought his hogtrough to be burnt as the Phanaticks Pulpit, but afterwards his House and barns were burnt by lightning.

Immediately after the Q. Mother of Scotland had uttered some jeering and scoffing speeches against some distressed Protestants who were slain before the walls of Leith, a sudden fire kindled in that Town which burnt up all the Queens Store-houses and Provisions, whereupon she presently fell sick and died, Clarks Examp. p. 581.

The Paralel.

XX.

THe day that Major General *Harrison* suffered *October 13. 1660.* a Pantaloon Ruffainly Gentleman, placed himself near *Newgate* to see the Major General drawn to his Execution, one that stood near him observed him often to break forth into most execrable cursing and swearing, he would be frequently wishing, *Oh that the Rogue would come away, that I*

A Person rejoycing in expectation to see Major General *Harrison* go to his execution, was suddenly taken with a strange Trembling or Convulsion fit.

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might see how like a Rogue he looks now he is going to be hanged; at length Harrison came, and as this Gentleman had fixed his eye upon him, he was smitten immediately with such a trembling that he was not able to hold a joynt still, his companions got him into a house that was near, and the person that had observed him curse and swear as before, followed him into the house, and endeavoured to lay the Judgment of God home to his Conscience, but he seemed sensible of little, but cried out continually, *O I think my heart will come out*, he continued in this miserable condition in that House for about the space of two hours, then he was conveyed away by his Friends, and what became of him since we have not heard.

XXI.

One coming over, rejoicing to a Neighbour of his for that Mr. Peters was gone to be hanged, a great dog flew upon him and did bite several holes in his body to the endangering of his life.

THe same morning Mr. Peters suffered at Charing-crosse, which was October 16. 1660. A Poulterer in East-cheap rejoicing much at the death of that man, came cross the Street to a Butchers shop, rayling most bitterly against Mr. Peters, saying to this effect, *Now the Rogue Peters was gone to be hanged, and would Preach no more*, &c. While the words were yet in his mouth, a great Dog that lay under the Butchers Stall, came violently upon him without any provocation at all, bit him and tore him extreemly, and drew him under the Butchers Stall, and could not be gotten off him till he had bitten, as we are informed, 18 or 19 dangerous holes in his body, he was in great hazzard of his life by it, and kept his bed for some weeks after, but as we hear he is since recovered; This Providence was the more remarkable because the Dog was alwayes wont to be very gentle, and never observed either before or since to fly at any one, especially in the day time and in the Street; and besides this Poulterer using daily almost to come over to the Butchers Shop, was as familiar with the Dog, and the Dog with him, as if he had been his Master.

XXII.

Two malicious persons who did violently persecute a good Minister, were suddenly taken away by death.

One Mr. Anthony Palmer an able faithful Minister of the Gospel, was by the former Powers settled as Preacher at Bourton on the water in Gloucestershire, where he continued some years, but lately by the force and violence of some few of the Inhabitants was driven from his Charge, being several times in danger of his life, and so was constrained for a season to withdraw from the place, and did substitute an able Minister to preach in his room; But one of the Parishoners that had been the

the chief stickler against Mr. Palmer, brings an Episcopal man to read the Common-Prayer-Book there, and one Lords day when he had begun to read, the other Minister whom Mr. Palmer had requested for a time to supply his place for him, went up into the Pulpit and begun to speak to the people what he conceived tended more to their Edification, than what the other was then about, and wherein he so prevailed, that the other at last was forced to surcease; Upon this that person before mentioned (who was so fierce and cruel an enemy to Mr. Palmer, and the only considerable Patron in that Parish of this Common-Prayer Book man) stood up in the Congregation, and desired the Neighbours to depart with him, and not to hear such a Phanatique as was in the Pulpit, he prevailed with very few, except his Chaplain to bear him Company; But it pleased the Lord suddenly within a few hours after to strike him with death. Another of the Parish that was his abettor and companion in the forementioned proceedings, was also suddenly smitten in a very strange manner, his hands grasping one in another that they could not be opened, who in three dayes time was taken out of the world by death also.

One that was Chamberlain to the Emperour Valens expressed much discontent against a Religious Monk because of his frequent preaching, and did at one time, especially in the presence of the Emperour, abuse him with taunts and railing Language, but presently the hand of God stroke him with an Apoplexy and he fell downe dead, Beard Theat. p. 26.

The Parallel.

XXII.

One that lived in Wales, a great Persecutor of Nonconformists in his Neighbourhood, being not able to carry on his design against them there, in any proportion to the malice that was in his heart towards them, about Michaelmas last, in order to a more severe and effectual prosecution of them, came up to London, but his purpose God did wholly frustrate, for within two dayes after his arrival there, he was carried out of the world by death.

One who was come to London in order to doe some prejudice to some honest People in his Country was prevented by death.

XXIV.

One Mr. Constantine a Minister in Cheshire, was most injuriously dealt withal and persecuted by a Gentleman in that County, who was (as we are informed) the Patron of the living where Mr. Constantine was settled, but it pleased the Lord to send great Iwarmes of Lice to this Gentleman, wherewith he was grievously infested, and having some convictions upon his conscience, he went to Mr. Constantine, acknowledged the

A patron of a living where a godly minister was settled having done much injury to this good man, was so over-run with lice that he wrong died,

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wrong he had done him, and desired his pardon, and the benefit of his prayers to the Lord on his behalf; But within a short time he dyed of this noysome disease.

*The Paralel.
Ad Scapulam
p. 92.*

Tertullian writes concerning one Claudius Herminianus a great hater and persecutor of the Christians, that God smote him as he did Herod, so that he dyed of vermin, but before his death sayes he, cognito errore suo penè Christianus decessit, being convinced of this error in assisting the servants of Christ, he died almost perswaded to be a Christian himself.

Maximinian the Emperour, a cruel Persecutor of the Christians, was by the hand of God struck with a grievous disease, vermin bred abundantly in his body, wherewith he was so infested, that not being able to endure it any longer, he hanged himself, Euseb.

One Phillips also, a bloody enemy to the Protestants in Q. Maries dayes, and particularly to Mr. Tindal, a Godly Minister, fell into a grievous sickness, and was consumed with Lice, Aits and Mon;

XXV.

UPon the 23 of March 1660. a dreadful Judgment was executed by Gods immediate hand upon one Dorothy Mately an Inhabitant of Ashover in the County of Derby, an exact and true relation whereof was taken from the mouth of a very credible person (who lives in the said Town, and was an eye-witnesse of this severe stroke) by an eminent Citizen of London, who upon occasion hath since that time been at Ashover, and according to the information he there received concerning it, did himself draw up the relation following.

This Dorothy Mately lived in Ashover in the County of Derby, four miles from Chesterfield, she was a woman of a very wicked life and conversation, as divers people of the Town informed me, and particularly noted for a common curser, swearer, thief and lyer, and had gotten a constant habit of this Imprecation: (in her asserting of any thing,) *I would I might sink into the earth if it be not so, or I would God would make the Earth open and swallow me up,* and the like, some of the Town said they had heard her use such like imprecations hundreds of times; Her usual labour that she followed for her living, was to wash the rubbish that came forth of the Lead Groves or Mines, and therein to get sparks of lead ore. (as they called them;) And upon the 23 day of March 1660. the said Dorothy being washing Ore on the top of a steep and Rocky Hill, about a quarter of a mile from Ashover, was taxed for stealing two single pence out of a Youths pocket (who had laid aside his Breeches whilst he wrought in his Drawers) which she violently denied, wishing the ground might swallow her up if she had them, and used the same imprecations several times upon other occasions that day; And

one

one *George Hodgkinson* of *Ashover* a man of good repute amongst his Neighbours, comming accidentally by the place where the said *Dorothy* was at work (the time aforesaid) stood still a little to talk with her, she was washing her Ore in a Tub with a sieve in it, the people shewed me one like to it which I think was near four foot in the Diameter, and about two foot and a half deep; There was a little Girle standing at her Tub side, and another Wench being at some distance called aloud to them and they not understanding what she said, the said *George Hodgkinson* went to the Tub side and taking the litle Girle by the hand, said come and go along with me, and hear what the Wench hath to say to you, but as he said he and the Girle were not gone ten yards from the place before he heard the woman behind him crying out for help, and thereupon looking back he saw the Woman and the Tub twirling round and sinking (as his expressions were) and he, making answer to her cry, said, *pray to God to pardon thy sin, for thou art never like to be seen alive any longer*, or words to this effect, but when the woman and the tub were sunk about three yards down, she stayed a while and called again for help, thinking as she said, that she should stay there; and the man being sore amazed, yet beginning to think how to help her, immediately a great stone which appeared in the earth, fell upon her head, and broke her skull, and then the earth fell in upon her, and covered her; She was afterwards digged up, and found about four yards within ground, but her Tub and Sieve was not found, there was found in her pocket the single pence which she had denyed; After conversing with *George Hodgkinson* and some other Inhabitants of *Ashover*, I went to see the place, which is on the top of a Hill as aforesaid, there is a lead Grove or pit about six yards from the place, this grove as the people told me was forty odd Fathom deep cut through hard Rocks, and there was not the least shrinking of earth into that Grove, the place where the woman sunk was a round hole or pit, as I judge about three or four yards deep, and I think about the same breadth at the top, but narrow at the bottom, the ground round about is firm; and not the least crack in it that I could discern, and the very place where the woman and her tub stood, appeared the like before her sinking, there lies great weights of stone and Ore all about it, and the like hath done upon that place, I asked the people if they could give any reason for her sinking, and they answered, God only knows the reason (or to that effect) *George Hodgkinson* the immediate eye-witnesse, seemed much affected with it, and said he

hoped

hoped it would do him good, and that he should have occasion to remember it all the dayes of his life.

XXVI.

While the Bishop of Oxford was conferring orders upon some persons, a ledge of wainscot fell down upon the Communion Table. Also Dr. Barten Holiday as he was administering the Sacrament fell down and so wounded himself that he could not proceed to officiate any further.

ON the 31 of March being the Lords day, 1661. two strange accidents happened at Christ-Church in Oxford, where the Bishop of the Diocess was met with several of his Clergy to confer holy orders (as they call them) upon several persons, there is some difference in the reports about them.

But from a Member of that University, who is a great friend to that way, and will be far from speaking any thing to the disadvantage of that party, take the relation of it as followeth, being an extract of a Letter under his own hand, to a person of quality near London, dated at Oxford April 4. 1661. in *hæc verba*, On Sunday last the Bishop of Oxford conferred holy orders at Christ-Church, whilst they were about the Solemnity, two strange and unusual accidents happened, which have already occasioned discourses here, and I doubt not the story will get with advantage to London, the first was that whilst the Bishop was confirming several persons, a great ledge of Wainscore fell down either upon or nigh the Communion table, which it is thought if the Bishop had not been in the body of the Chancel laying hands on the persons to be confirmed, but in the place where he read the prayers it would have done him a mischief; The other accident was that Dr. Barten Holiday, the Arch-Deacon of Oxford administering the wine at the Sacrament (which is alwaies on such occasions to be administered) fell down and hit his face against the chalice, so as to wound himself so much that he was forced to desist and Dr. Lamplugh of Queens officiated for him.

From another member of the same University and as credible a person as the former we have a more full (yet true) account of this businesse as followeth. Upon the last day of March there were many ordained in Christ-Church Chappel, one of which sounded twice that they were forced to intermit till strong water was fetch'd, after which the Bishop went on in his work, wherein he had not long proceeded before a Canopy made of waincoat, a great while since erected over the high Altar, fell down upon the late railed Altar & with its fall threw down the bread appointed for the Communion that day, together with the drinking vessels, and made them fly several wayes; but after this a worse thing chanced, when the Table was prepared again for the Communion, and all consecrated by the Bishop, as Dr. Holiday his Lordships Arch-Deacon was marching with the

the Cup down the steps from the high Altar to administer it, he fell down with an exceeding violence and cut both his hand and his face, whereby he was utterly disabled from officiating any further for that time in that service.

XXVII.

ONE *Luke Hodges* of the City of *Worcester*, with two or three more of his friends and companions, had occasion not long before the 23 of *April* last 1661. (being the day of the Kings Coronation) to ride (according to our best information) to *Droyt Wyck*, where their business it seems detained them the day before mentioned, which according to the mode of those that would be accounted the best Subjects, they did celebrate in swearing and rioting, but especially in drinking the Royal healths (though expressly contrary to his Majesties late Proclamation on that behalf;) but these men that they might excell and become paramount in the Solemnity of the day, did agree that the most considerable healths should be honoured with putting alive into every glass of Wine a little Fish, which in that Country they call a *Loch*, and so to drink down wine and fish together. and if at any time the fish stuck by the way according to their agreement they were to swear and curse it down; when the Solemnity was ended, and they had made use of the ordinary means (sleep) for the recovery of their senses, and were now from beasts in some competent degree transformed into men again, as well as they could rode home to *Worcester*, where the Righteous God immediately calls some of them to an account for their late prophaneess and horrible abuse of themselves and his Creatures, and strikes the aforesaid *Luke Hodges* with a desperate and violent sickness, during all the time whereof he was in unspeakable torment, and still fancied (as we have credibly been informed) that the Fishes which he drank down did continually gnaw upon him, after a few days sickness he miserably ended his life.

Three or four debauched persons Inhabitants of *Worcester* did one the day of his Majesties Coronation drink healths to so great excess, that two of them fell sick immediately upon it and died.

About the same time another of them whose name was *Segar* the Lord struck much after the same manner, and in a short space of time he also breathed out his last, the rest are for the present reserved to take warning by the example of Gods severe Judgments upon their fellows, whereby the Lord with a very loud and most articulate voice calls them to a speedy repentance and reformation, *least they likewise perish*, Luke 13. 5.

It would fill a considerable Volume to collect the several judgments that have been inflicted upon Drunkards and Health-drinkers, the Reader may furnish himself with variety of Examples of this kind if he look into Beards Theat. &c. And Clarks Examples, and a book called a Divine Tragedy; we shall only pick out these three short instances, which come the nearest to a Paralel of any that we can find.

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1. At the Plough in Barnwel near Camb. 4 persons were engaged in this sin of drunknesse, and drank so much that within a short time after three of them died & the fourth narrowly escaped after a very great sicknesse, Clarke Exam. p. 148.

2. Also at a place near Mauldon in Essex, 4 or 5 persons appointed a drinking match, and did there abuse the Creatures of God to very great excess, they drank Healths in a very strange manner, whereof all of them dyed in a very short time after, Clarke ibid. p. 149.

3. To these two, we shall adde only one more, An Episcopal conformable Minister going down (Anno 1634.) on a Saturday night with some of his Neighbours into the Country, the next day being the Lords day, they went in the Afternoon a little way to visit a London Minister, who had another living in the Country, he entertained them very courteously with good store of Sack, &c. the Parson who was the visitor drank so freely, that he was ill all night, and the next morning grew worse, his Neighbours got him home as well as they could to London, and before the next Lords day following he died, Divine Trag p. 28.

The Conclusion.

VWE have now given a faithful account to the world of those great and remarkable providences which have come to our knowledge within the compass of the respective times mentioned in the foregoing Narrative. Many other particulars of the like nature we have by us, which came to our hands too late to accompany these which we have now published. We shall therefore reserve them together with what of the like kind may for the future from good hands be communicated to us (wherein we beg the utmost assistance from all the Lords People in the several Countries) to another season, which if the Lord vouchsafe, they shall see the Light also. In the mean while, we cannot but recommend to the Readers most serious perusal, an excellent Discourse of Dr. Martin Luther (that Faithful Servant of Jesus Christ against Antichrist) upon Luke 21. vers. 25, 26. &c. being very lately by an able and faithful hand, with great exactness Translated out of his Expositions on the Gospels and writings of the Apostles and other places of Scripture, Printed at Bafil, Anno 1546. which Sermon as we judge doth most lively open and apply the foregoing History of the great and marvellous works of the Lord, which cannot indeed be rightly known or understood but by his word. And what this Famous and Eminent Light of the Church did Declare and Teach so long agoe, is exactly calculated for this year of Prodiges and Wonders, we read in Rev. 4. vers. 5. That out of the Throne of God, proceeded Lightnings, and Thundrings, and Voices, &c. By Lightnings and Thundrings, we may well understand the Terrible and Dreadful works and Dispensations of God, which being alone, make but a very uncertain sound, but Voices (which signifie the Preaching of the word) being joyned with them, they may the more clearly be understood, and the better improved by all those that take pleasure therein. Now as Face answers Face in a Glass, so truly and fully doth the foregoing Narrative in all things comport with the forementioned Sermon, upon which account we do the more affectionately at this time recommend it to the Sober and Judicious Reader, praying unto the Lord, that all those who shall have Hearts and Opportunity to look seriously into it, may thereby through Divine Blessing, be fully instructed in the Mind and Meaning of God, in these late Eminent and Signal Works and Wonders of his Providence amongst us.

* this is not that Sermon of Luthers, upon the same Text which was heretofore translated into English, and Printed at London, Anno. 1570. though that also be a Discourse well worthy the Readers most diligent perusal.

FINIS.



